



# Home & Middle East News

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## King Fahd wants to inject new blood into government

**RIYADH** (Agencies) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia said he wanted to inject new blood into his government when he reshuffled his cabinet last week.

In a televised speech four days after he replaced his oil minister and 15 other cabinet members, King Fahd also said he wanted to maintain strong ties with the United States and as well as European, Arab and Islamic countries.

"The change in the cabinet does not mean there were errors. I think it is better to give an opportunity to other Saudis," he said at a swearing-in ceremony for his new ministers at the Red Sea city of Jeddah.

Former ministers were also present.

The king, who is also prime minister, said his role and that of the crown prince, Abdallah Ibn Abdul Aziz, was to "cooperate" with the ministers and "ease their task."

"I will not hesitate in any case to speak with a brother (minister) about a constructive measure," he said, adding he will do the same with the members of the Consultative Council and the "cabinet."

When it comes to government decisions, "the rule is the attachment to the Koran and the Sunna," the tradition of the Prophet Mohammad.

"In foreign policy, we want to be friends with everyone, the United States, as well as European, Islamic and Arab countries," he said.

Saudi Arabia "was not looking for disputes with anyone but was also not ready to give up one of its rights," he added.

"We want friendship among Arab countries and Islamic countries and to (preserve) special relations which exist with European countries and America," he said.

He is expected to discuss bilateral relations including a border dispute with Qatar from the United States.

King Fahd Wednesday appointed 16 new ministers

to a 28-member cabinet, including Ali Ibn Ibrahim Al Nouaimi, president of the state-run oil company Saudi ARAMCO, who replaced Hisham Nazer as oil minister.

Under the basic law, or mini-constitution, issued by the king in 1993, the government was due to be dissolved in 1995 and successive cabinets appointed for mandates of four years.

King Fahd said: "We are not creating problems to anyone but we do not accept that anybody should create problems for us or to insult Saudi Arabia as a country or a people."

Saudi Arabia has moved so far this year to settle its border with the United Arab Emirates, signed a border deal with Oman and a framework for delineating its border with Yemen and is said to be preparing a settlement with Kuwait.

About 20 members of a 28-man cabinet have post-graduate degrees, mainly from the United States.

emir, Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani Sunday according to diplomatic sources in Doha:

A 1992 border agreement between Qatar and Saudi Arabia has run into difficulties. Diplomats said there were hopes to settle this dispute which led to clashes three years ago.

Sheikh Hamad, who ousted his father in palace coup in June, was paying a one-day visit to Saudi Arabia Sunday, his first since the coup to any foreign country.

The new cabinet has brought in highly-educated technocrats to take over key ministries in the first big shake-up since 1975.

This was seen by analysts as a signal that the conservative kingdom is pressing ahead with long-promised economic reforms.

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## Jewish settlers set up anti-PLO spy ring

**TEL AVIV** (AFP) — Israeli religious activists and settlers have created a network to spy on PLO officials as part of a campaign to force the closure of the Palestinian headquarters in annexed East Jerusalem.

Armed with pistols, portable telephones and video cameras, a group of 20 men film comings and goings or tail the cars of Palestinian officials who want a share of the holy city for the capital of their own future state.

With city hall support, they are building up files which they hope to use in court or for propaganda in the struggle to maintain Jewish sovereignty over all of Jerusalem.

The settlers' interests range wide and include property acquisitions by Palestinians, the opening of offices and gun permits.

The group, from the highly politicised Beit Orot Bible institute on the Mount of Olives, work surveillance shifts outside the PLO headquarters called Orient House

or other targets such as the home of Faisal Husseini, the de facto PLO "minister" for Jerusalem.

Among their victims is Ahmad Tibi, an Arab born in Israel who acts as an adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

They also maintain a less than discreet presence outside the American Colony hotel, frequented by Palestinian society in East Jerusalem.

The "spies" have published a map of alleged PLO government offices in East Jerusalem and accuse the government of turning a blind eye to Palestinian attempts to strengthen the Arab character of the annexed sector of the city.

The Israeli parliament passed legislation in December outlawing official Palestinian political activities in Jerusalem.

The Forum for Greater Jerusalem, a right-wing body lobbying to expand the municipal borders to include a large swathe of the occupied

West Bank, has thrown its weight behind the campaign of intimidation.

The forum has set up its office in a tent outside Orient House.

Rabbi Shmuel Meir, deputy mayor of Jerusalem and a member of the National Religious Party, is pulling many of the strings. His presence implies at least the tacit support of Mayor Ehud Olmert of the right-wing opposition Likud.

"We are trying to disclose everything that the PLO does illegally in Jerusalem," he said.

According to Meir, there are 51 PLO-affiliated offices in East Jerusalem where 500 Palestinian preventive security agents operate.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has admitted that 20 agents of Jibril Rajub, the preventive security chief for the self-rule enclave of Jericho, work in the Holy City.

But some settlers do not limit the campaign to simple surveillance.

Two of Mr. Husseini's guards have also been held.

An opinion poll published Friday showed that 46 per cent of Israelis are against the settlers' activities while only 23 per cent support them wholeheartedly and 29 per cent only when they act within the law.

Three times in recent weeks, Israelis have opened fire outside Mr. Husseini's house.

U.S. Consul-General Ed Abington has branded Israeli security forces "extraordinarily lax" against those who fired the shots.

This is vigilante action which in any Western country would be condemned as pre-meditated harassment and the authorities would deal with it in a very firm fashion," the senior American diplomat in Jerusalem said.

Police announced Thursday evening, apparently after Mr. Abington's outburst, that six Israelis, most West Bank settlers, had just been detained.

mists and could drag out parliamentary debates endlessly.

Turkey is very aware of what it has to do for the European Union in order not to endanger the customs union," said Jorg Ketelsen of the European Commission in Turkey.

A package of constitutional amendments approved by parliament on July 22 took Turkey by surprise and drew praise from the European Commission, France and the United States.

Local and international human rights groups, however, were outraged that it did not address political prisoners, prison torture and the disappearance of detainees under investigation.

And experts say the changes, which among others allow associations political activity and lower the voting age, fall just one step short of letting Turkey into the customs union.

That one step — scrapping political restrictions — is likely to set conservatives on a collision course with reformists.

"If the government manages to make a substantial change in article eight, or to cancel it, this could be the last stone on the way to a final yes by the European Parliament," Mr. Ketelsen said.

The infamous Article 8 belongs to the "anti-terrorist" law passed in the late 1980s in a bid to stem the Kurdish separatist movement.

The government and the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) have been engaged in an 11-year battle that left 20,000 people dead, including soldiers, militants and civilians, official figures say.

Some 2,500 people have been convicted under the article with 6,000 others charged including professionals, association leaders and about 120 journalists, according to human rights groups.

Prime Minister Tansu Ciller recently told the Belgian daily *Le Libre Belge* that Article 8 was "incompatible with a democracy" and was the last obstacle to be overcome.

She hopes to get the 450-member parliament to approve Article 8.

"There are a lot of ideas" on how to handle Article 8, said a Western diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We expect October to be a very intense period, there's a lot on their (the government's) agenda, but they are committed to doing it,"

## Iraqi opposition on verge of falling apart

**DUBAI**, United Arab Emirates (AFP) — The alliance of Arab and Kurd opponents forged after the Gulf war to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is close to collapse, wracked by bloodshed, personal rivalries and distrust.

The United States and Britain have been trying to hold together the coalition, which they encouraged after the 1991 conflict and have since provided air cover in the declared "safe haven" of northern Iraq.

But Iraq also has been wooing the Kurds with calls for a resumption of contacts with the government in Baghdad, which lost control of the north of the country after the war.

Retired General Hassan Al Naqib, a leading opposition figure, said the Iraqi National Congress (INC) alliance was "finished" and that the lives of Arab opposition figures in Iraqi Kurdistan were in danger.

"The Arab branch (of the opposition) is the most important, and the INC is no longer capable of assuring the fall of Saddam Hussein," said the Sunni Muslim retired general.

The general is one of the

three leaders of the INC, based in northern Iraq, along with Kurdish chief Massoud Barzani, head of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), and Sayed Mohammad Bahar Al Uloom, a Shiite religious leader.

It has been more than a year since the three-member leadership council has met, and Mr. Uloom suspended his participation three months ago to protest the way decisions were made.

"I won't go back to northern Iraq any more because I cannot work properly there. It's a hopeless situation," Gen. Naqib told the Arab daily *Al Hayat* from the Syrian capital last week.

An INC official in London, Kassim Ghali, said: "I fear that the conflict between General Naqib and Mr. Barzani will only lead to a split between Arabs and Kurds."

Another key Sunni Arab opposition figure, Wafiq Al Samarrai, charged that Mr. Barzani had tried to have him assassinated since his defection to northern Iraq last December.

On Thursday, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) led by Jalal Talabani accused Mr. Barzani's group of having

formed a secret alliance with President Saddam Hussein.

But KDP spokesman Fazl Atroshi, contacted in London, dismissed all the charges and defended his group.

The KDP does not need a certificate of patriotism from a former chief of military intelligence," he said. As for Mr. Samarrai, he was "one of those who carried out the genocide of the Kurdish people" in an Iraqi onslaught in 1988.

An INC spokesman in London, Mohammad Abdul Jabbar, admitted that the coalition was in a crisis.

"The effectiveness of the INC has diminished because of fighting in Kurdistan," he said over the telephone, referring to inter-Kurdish fighting over power and tax revenues that has cost more than 2,000 lives since May 1994.

The PUK-KDP clashes have deprived the non-Kurdish opposition of a base in Iraq," Mr. Abdul Jabbar said.

But Mr. Abdul Jabbar said there were few alternatives to the INC.

"None of those who have left the INC have been able to form another coalition. Therefore, collective action remains imperative. No other group can alone topple Saddam."

The two groups are to hold peace talks between Aug. 9 and 11 in Lisbon under U.S. mediation, while Britain also urged the INC to close ranks.

against Saddam at a meeting at the Foreign Office Thursday.

As for the president's opponents in the Shiite camp, Mohammad Baqir Al Hakim, based in Tehran, visited Damascus last week to try to rally the different factions.

But Mr. Hakim, leader of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), also said the INC was "neither serious nor effective."

The Iraqi Communist Party has suspended its participation in the INC and Al Daawa, the oldest Shiite group, has quit the alliance.

Financing for the INC and the use of the funds has exacerbated the internal quarreling. Reports in the American press that the INC received funds from the CIA (U.S. intelligence service) aggravated the situation," Mr. Abdul Jabbar said.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Syria puts out oil well fire

DAMASCUS (R) — Fire fighters have put out a fire at an oil field in northeastern Syria which had been raging since May, Oil Minister Nadir Nabulsi said Sunday. He said in a statement the fire at Al Izba Oil Well, near the Deir Al-Zor city, some 450 kilometres northeast of Damascus, was totally under control and the well was capped Saturday. He said the fire was caused by blowout at the field which he described as rare in its size, nature and the volume of its pressure. A spokesman for the U.S. Boot and Coots Company said in New York last month that his firm was helping to fight the fire and cap the well. He said the blowout was burning 80,000 barrels per day of light crude oil.

### Opposition: S. Arabia is still feudal

NICOSIA (AFP) — Saudi Arabia is still run in a "feudal and tribal" way despite the government reshuffle announced last week, an Islamic opposition group said. "The Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights (CDLR) sees no real changes in the policy, concept or attitude" of the government, the London-based group said in a statement received in Cyprus late Saturday. "The country is still labouring under the tribal and feudal mentality of Al Saud," it said. "There are no changes in the government's policy or its views of state or society. The only salient reorganisation is one administration." King Fahd Wednesday appointed 16 new ministers to a 27-member cabinet. "All the appointees are of the Uriah

Heep mentality, bowing and scraping," charged the CDLR, referring to an obsequious character from a work by Charles Dickens. The CDLR was founded in 1993 by university professors and Muslim religious leaders who accuse King Fahd of being corrupt and criticise his "undemocratic" methods.

### Iran students protest newspaper ban

TEHRAN (AFP) — Hundreds of Islamic radical students held a rally at Tehran University Sunday to protest the closure of a popular left-wing newspaper. University officials closed the gates to the campus during the rally in front of a mosque, barring entry to anyone without a student card. The authorities banned the *Peyam-e-Danehju* (Student's Message) weekly last Monday after accusing it of printing sensational news items and failing to conform with the country's press law. The paper was very popular for its open and biting criticism of Iranian leaders, notably President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. In a militant speech to the rally, the former managing director of the weekly, Heshmatollah Tabazadi, criticised the ban as a "violation of the constitution and freedom of expression." He blasted university authorities for ordering the gates closed during the protest, saying the move was reminiscent of the repressive measures taken towards university students by last shah of Iran. The 1979 "Islamic Revolution triumphed after people crashed through the closed gates of universities," in a sign of protest, he told protesters. "Closing the newspaper does not solve the problems," Mr. Tabazadi added, referring to the country's social and economic ills formerly addressed by *Peyam-e-Danehju*.

## Turkish constitution changes please the West

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkey's recent democratisation drive has delighted the Western world, but the country is left with a more difficult challenge if it is to be admitted into the European Customs Union next year.

A package of constitutional amendments approved by parliament on July 22 took Turkey by surprise and drew praise from the European Commission, France and the United States.

Local and international human rights groups, however, were outraged that it did not address political prisoners, prison torture and the disappearance of detainees under investigation.

And experts say the changes, which among others allow associations political activity and lower the voting age, fall just one step short of letting Turkey into the customs union.

The government and the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) have been engaged in an 11-year battle that left 20,000 people dead, including soldiers, militants and civilians, official figures say.

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"We expect October to be a very intense period, there's a lot on their (the government's) agenda, but they are committed to doing it,"

in approval of Kurdish separation.

But he predicted: "It is very difficult for the conservative parliament to make the change."

With about 100 parliament members expected to vote against touching Article 8, Ms. Ciller is likely to have a rough time building up a majority.

But, as with the constitutional changes, the vote may swing in her favour at the last minute.

Much of the opposition comes from conservatives within her own True Path Party who strengthen a block of ultra-nationalist



Iraqi singer Karem Al Saher (centre) and his troupe perform Saturday night at the finale of the 14th Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts. By popular demand, the Iraqi musical group were to give an additional performance at Jerash's South Theatre Sunday night (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## PLO clinic doctors fear salary cuts are a sign of things to come

Beatrix Immenkamp  
Special to the Jordan Times

the past two years.

"The doctors themselves had to collect money from rich donors and relatives to pay the rent and electricity, water, and telephone bills and to pay the salaries of the workers."

Physicians' salaries were paid late, and from January to July 1994, we were not paid at all," the doctor complained.

According to Ghazi Husseini, general supervisor of the Palestinian Social Security Department, the accumulated debt of the PLO clinics amounts to around \$165,000.

Approximately 20,000 Palestinian families benefit from services in the three clinics in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid.

But even though the Amman clinic, opened in 1984, is still operating, offering ear, nose and throat, gynaecological and dental treatment, surgical operations, X-rays, laboratory tests and medicines to 70 patients every day, its days are numbered unless the PNA reverses its decision, the doctor said.

According to the physician who spoke to the Jordan Times, the Palestinian Ministry of Health is writing daily in the press about its need for medical specialists, but no invitation to move to the West Bank or Gaza has reached the PLO's physicians in Jordan.

As a result, doctors who have worked for the PLO for little money over the years, he said, feel betrayed.

Allegations that the PLO clinics had not been providing any health services to their beneficiaries for more than one and a half years, and that this was one of the reasons for the reduction of the salaries, reached the physicians through unofficial channels.

Physicians reject this accusation strongly, citing instead the efforts they made to keep the clinics operating in the face of serious financial difficulties.

Repeated requests for an official explanation of the PNA's decision from the physician and the Palestinian Social Security Department have so far remained unanswered.

expected to leave Jordan in the next months, following an agreement between Israel and the PLO on expanding Palestinian self-rule.

But the 23 physicians who would be affected by the PNA decision said this reasoning was not convincing. They asked why they have not been invited to move to the West Bank and Gaza, to make their services available to residents there, if they are no longer needed here.

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## Ministry appeals to U.S. to allow Iyad Nejem's parents to attend trial

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Foreign Ministry has appealed to U.S. authorities to allow the parents of Iyad Nejem, the Jordanian citizen charged with involvement in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, to attend the trial of their son, the Jordan news agency, Petra, reported Sunday.

The 24-year-old Nejem is accused of driving the vehicle that transported the bomb onto the World Trade Center.

He was extradited from Jordan to the U.S. last Thursday.

Petra said Justice Minister Hisham Tal assured Nejem's parents at a meeting in his office Sunday that the government was in continuous contact with U.S. officials with regard to the parents' request to be allowed to

attend their son's trial.

Nejem pleaded not guilty to conspiracy charges related to the blast that killed six people, injured 1,000 and caused millions of dollars in damage to the 110-storey twin towers in Manhattan.

Nejem, who has been assigned a court-appointed lawyer at Manhattan Federal Court, was ordered to reappear in court on Aug. 16.

"He is charged with the planning stages, execution stages and particularly transportation of the bomb," U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White told a news conference before Nejem's arraignment.

The accused's father, Mahmoud Nejem, told Reuters on Thursday: "I have a sweeping feeling that he is innocent because he chose to go to New York and to meet the officials there."

The JEA team will conduct a general survey and collect information about the electric power situation before the study.

According to Mr. Azzam, the JEA is intent on reducing and eliminating the electric power loss because it would mean a significant savings of fuel which has been required to generate the electric power stations. He added that conserving electric power would provide a better supply to the consumers.

He estimated the current loss of electric power at 15 per cent.

Referring to other difficulties in power supply, Mr. Azzam said that the power supply reaches 99 per cent of the urban and rural regions of Jordan, but the long cables carrying the power cause further energy



Palestinian children at the Baqaa refugee camp help in cleaning a construction site (UNRWA file photo)

In a statement to Petra, Mr. Tarshishi said that senior officials from his office toured all refugee camps in Jordan in order to determine the residents' needs. Besides basic public services, these communities require proper roads, he stated.

Mr. Tarshishi said that his department was keen on seeking more financial aid from the government in order to further carry out essential services.

## Japan to study electricity loss in Jordan's national power network

AMMAN (Petra) — The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Sunday signed a memorandum of understanding with the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to conduct a study designed to minimise the loss of electric energy distributed by JEA throughout the country.

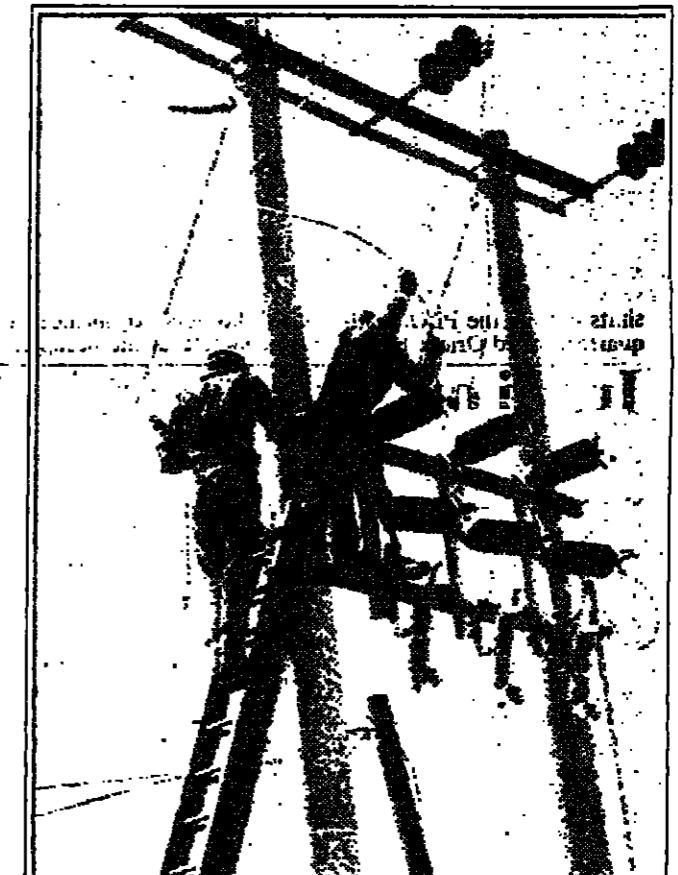
JICA official Yushitaka Adakwa who signed the memorandum along with Mohammad Azzam, the JEA deputy director general, said in a statement that a JICA team has arrived in Jordan to conduct the study and find new means for improving the process of electricity distribution to the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) and the country's power generation stations in Jordan.

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Jordan Electricity Authority engineers at work on power lines (file photo)

losses on the way.

He said the JEA requires new technology to curb such losses, hence the signing of the memorandum with JICA.

Mr. Adakwa, who is assistant director to JICA's Department of Energy and Minerals, said his team will start working with the concerned parties in Jordan after the survey has been completed.

He remarked that the present technology in use here

is traditional and requires development in order to deal efficiently with the problem.

Mr. Adakwa said JICA will dispatch two Jordanian experts to Japan to familiarise themselves with his country's system of fully exploiting electric power.

Prior to signing the memorandum, the JICA team visited various power generation stations in Amman and Aqaba and the JEA's power control centre.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### MEETING

\* Meeting of the Amman Rotary Cosmopolitan Club at the InterContinental Hotel Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 1:30 p.m. (instead of Wednesday).

### EXHIBITIONS

\* Paintings by Aneta Traikova at Alia Art Gallery.

\* "Exhibition of Chinese Products '95," at Al Bassam Hall, King Abdullah Gardens.

\* Handicrafts and souvenirs at Amman Citadel (9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.)

\* Exhibition demonstrating the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

## Britain hopes to reduce Jordan's debt before MENA summit, says envoy

By Cathy King  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

Amman — British Ambassador to Jordan Peter Hinchcliffe Sunday said his government will do all it can to

reduce Jordan's debt to London prior to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit to be held here in October.

Jordan's remaining debt to the United Kingdom currently stands at JD 369 million in the form of export credit guarantees, Mr. Hinchcliffe told the Jordan Times.

"We are going to do our best (to remove the burden of debt), but we are not sure if anything can be done before the MENA summit," said Mr. Hinchcliffe.

Britain wrote off around JD 50 million of debt fol-

lowing the signing of the Washington Declaration in July 1994, the ambassador said.

The outstanding debt of JD 369 million arose during the late 1980s.

Bilateral trade increased during that period, but the successive economic slump rendered many Jordanian companies incapable of meeting financial commitments made with British firms.

Those companies insured by the Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECGD) recovered their losses from the ECGD, explained Mr. Hinchcliffe.

The ECGD is a British governmental organisation, therefore debts accrued are repayable to the British government.

Jordan's economic slump resulted from the devalu-

ation of the dinar in 1989 and the aftermath of the 1990-91 Gulf crisis: the international trade embargo on Iraq, the blockade of Aqaba, the influx of around 300,000 returnees and the subsequent loss of remittances and the lapse of trade with Gulf countries.

"Jordan has one of the most debt burdened governments in the world, (owing) about JD 6 billion, whether as loans to be repaid, as export credit guarantees or to the IMF (International Monetary Fund) and others," Mr. Hinchcliffe said.

The problem of debts owed as export credit guarantees, said the ambassador, is that investors' faith in a country's ability to fulfil commitments is lessened.

The main objective of the MENA summit is to entice

massive investment in the region.

However, former Minister of Finance Sami Gammoh said in January that the IMF recommendation to extend about \$53 million in additional credit facilities to the Kingdom was an expression of confidence in Jordan's economic performance.

Mr. Hinchcliffe stated that it must also be remembered that the Paris Club, of which the U.K. is a member, meets annually to discuss debt rescheduling. Debt rescheduling by the Paris Club has been carried out over the past three years, he said, adding that although immediate debt servicing is then stalled, the overhanging debt is a burden to the Kingdom and inhibits development.

"When Mr. Major visited

Jordan (in March) he said he would do what he could to relieve the country . . . in appreciation for the signing of the (Jordan-Israel) peace treaty and to show support for Jordan," Mr. Hinchcliffe noted.

The ambassador said that although Britain would like to follow in the footsteps of the United States which recently wrote off the Kingdom's debt to Washington, including export credit guarantees, the ECGD is a governmental organisation that can't show a loss.

Therefore, he added, a measure such as this would require a political decision as opposed to an economic one.

"Jordan is not in the league table of poor countries. It is a middle income country," he said, "but the

difference between it and other middle income countries is its involvement in the peace process and raised expectations since the signing of the peace treaty."

The options in hand, said the ambassador, include the repurchasing of debt at a lower cost than actual value, known as "debt swap." Debt swap allows for the amount to be repaid to be pumped into development projects.

Instead Britain could write off more of the outstanding debt or at worst it could remain with the ECGD which at least levies interest at far cheaper rates than banks, he said.

"We would like to be able to write off more, but we can't go so far," Mr. Hinchcliffe reiterated. "We are trying to do something by the time of the MENA summit."

# World News

## Murayama tries to quell factional struggle to save coalition

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama is battling to stop factional power struggles within his ruling coalition from ruining plans for a cabinet reshuffle aimed at giving a fresh start to the alliance after an electoral setback.

Mr. Murayama is faced with the difficult task of holding the three-party coalition together while leaders of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and New Party Sakigake grapple with internal power struggles after a poor showing in upper house elections held in July.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) leader's plans to reshuffle his cabinet could be thrown into disarray with LDP chief and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono's position being challenged by party stalwart Ryutaro Hashimoto, who is minister of international trade and industry.

The LDP, which is the largest force in the 13-month-old coalition, is preparing for party presidential elections in September.

"Nothing should be entangled with the presidential election of the Liberal Democratic Party," Mr. Murayama said at a Sunday news conference in Hiroshima after attending a commemorative

event for the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the city.

The prime minister added that the power struggle between Mr. Kono and Mr. Hashimoto was "an internal party affair."

The coalition was shaken two weeks ago by Sakigake chief Masatoshi Takemura's threat to quit as head of the party and also give up his posting as finance minister to take responsibility for his party's poor performance in the upper house elections.

Mr. Murayama has affirmed that he was asking Mr. Kono and Mr. Takemura to stay on in their posts "to strengthen cooperation and mutual trust among the party chiefs" and maintain the balance of power within the coalition. He is also expected to ask Mr. Hashimoto to remain as trade minister.

Mr. Kono, however, is reluctant to keep his cabinet portfolio when his chairmanship of the LDP is at stake with strong competition from Mr. Hashimoto.

Press reports said Mr. Hashimoto, who returned home from a South East Asian tour Saturday, was expected to be contacted soon by the premier about the impending cabinet reshuffle.

The reshuffling has been expected ever since the balance of power was altered in July 23 elections for seats in the House of councillors, with the LDP making only modest gains. Sakigake won

a few seats and the SDP recording its worst showing in any upper house polls.

The opposition Shinshinto, or New Frontier Party, made the largest gains in the polls.

Mr. Murayama, who was elected premier last year as result of a marriage of convenience between the LDP and the Social Democrats, has refused to step down despite the upper house elections debacle.

On Sunday, he said the cabinet should be reshuffled as soon as possible to continue administrative and economic reforms and to secure Japan's economic recovery. "I have to consider a fresh cabinet to respond to all of these things," he said.

In two rounds of meetings Friday, both Mr. Kono and Mr. Takemura refused to commit themselves to stay in their respective posts, although they told Mr. Murayama they would remain in the cabinet in unspecified posts.

The three were to meet again Monday.

Mr. Murayama said the reshuffle would take place in the first half of the week, without specifying the date. Parliamentary sources said the most likely date would be Tuesday.

"I am arguing (against staying) because the cabinet should be reformed in a way

## Cali cartel boss arrested in Colombia

CALI, Colombia (AFP) — Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela, reputed kingpin of the Cali cocaine cartel, was arrested early Sunday at a home here in the latest blow to the world's most powerful drug gang, police said.

Police chief Rosso Jose Serrano said Mr. Rodriguez was arrested while sleeping in a residence in western Cali, some 500 kilometres west of Bogota. Four other people were arrested in the raid.

The suspects offered no resistance, police said. Two small briefcases believed to contain key information about the drug organisation were also seized.

Members of the combined army and police anti-drug team had been searching the Cali region for Mr. Rodriguez for weeks. On Saturday, the task force raided a clinic in Cali where he was believed to have been.

Mr. Rodriguez, who had been the number-two leader of the Cali group, was believed to have taken the reins of the powerful and politically connected cartel following the arrest June 9 of his brother, Gilberto.

U.S. officials have said the Cali organisation is responsible for as much as 80 per cent of the world's cocaine production, and Miguel Rodriguez has been indicated in several U.S. cities on drug trafficking charges.

Five of the cartel's seven key leaders — including Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela — had already been either arrested or surrendered to officials in recent months.

Following the latest arrest, the only top leader of the cartel still at large is Helmer Herrera.

The drug organisation is believed to have a pervasive influence over Colombian

political and economic life. Colombian Defence Minister Fernando Botero resigned Wednesday amid allegations that he used drug money to fund President Ernesto Samper's presidential campaign last year. Ironically, Mr. Botero had been leading the stepped-up campaign to capture the Cali leaders.

Last month, Mr. Samper's former campaign treasurer, Santiago Medina, was accused of accepting a \$50,000 check from a Cali cartel front business.

Mr. Samper has maintained that if any drug money was used to finance his campaign it was done without his knowledge, and he promised to cooperate with any investigation.

At least 345 raids on farms, homes, offices and clinics, resulting in the arrest of 25 people, have been carried out by anti-drug team this year.

Police measures have been largely ineffective and the situation only began to calm down Sunday morning as an estimated 700 punks left Hannover. But police cautioned against premature optimism.

"These people are totally disorganized and we can't predict what might happen," a spokesman said.

Over the three days, there have been no signs of organised concerts or rallies, no obvious leaders to orchestrate events, no plan of action — only one punk described as "the biggest party of all time."

Since anarchists gathered Thursday for their annual "Chaos Days," police have had to contend with a deluge of missiles lobbed by punks bent on taking pleasure in fighting the security forces, according to a police spokesman in Hannover.

The rioters, wearing their traditional uniform of denim or leather dotted through with metal studs and chains, and hair dyed every colour possible, sowed terror throughout the city, disturbing passers-by and destroying everything that lay in their path.

Vehicles were set alight and countless windows smashed. Skirmishers also broke out between the punks and gangs of skinheads.

Mr. Yeltsin ordered the comprehensive survey of nuclear facilities after being convicted that there were many dangers, and that his reputation as a guarantor of nuclear safety was at stake, the article said.

Scientists with nuclear secrets can slip out of the country by paying as little as \$100 to bribe Border Guards.

Some strategic weapons system have only half the required crews, with resultant failures in maintenance and poor radiation protection for soldiers.

Two nuclear power plants, at Tver and Kursk in western Russia, suffer from especially severe safety defects.

From the beginning of 1992 to May this year there were around 25 serious incidents in Russian nuclear power plants among a total of 7,698 incidents including minor problems.

Safety standards in uranium mines have not improved since 1963. Miners have worn-out protective gear and little medical support.

Among the details in the article:

## Kim Jong-II to become N. Korean president in September — report

TOKYO (AFP) — Kim Jong-II may become North Korea's president around its national day on Sept. 9, a press report said Sunday.

"It is certain that Secretary Kim will assume the presidency within September," the Japanese newspaper Nihon Keizai quoted an informed source in Tokyo as saying.

The leading economic daily also said Kim Jong-II, the People's Army supreme com-

mander since late 1991, was likely to become head of North Korea's all-powerful Workers Party on the 50th anniversary of its foundation on Oct. 10.

The two top posts have been vacant since the death of his father, Kim Il-Sung, on July 8 last year. Delays in the power transfer, officially attributed to a year of mourning, have raised questions abroad about the junior Kim's health and ability to govern.

The sources said the Pyongyang-guided General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) had begun preparations for celebrations for Mr. Kim's inauguration.

Chongryun is scheduled to convene its central committee on Sept. 13 and the meeting could be used to commemorate the junior Kim's accession to the presidency, the newspaper said.

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Safety standards in uranium mines have not improved since 1963. Miners have worn-out protective gear and little medical support.

Among the details in the article:

## Yeltsin's secret study on Russian nuclear safety 'shows many problems'

BERLIN (AP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has a secret report that reveals serious accidents in his country's nuclear installation and poor protection against nuclear smuggling. The West Am Sonntag newspaper said Sunday.

Russian authorities have begun to take action to correct catastrophic dangers as a result of the report that Mr. Yeltsin received on May 19, said the article written by Professor Nikolai Nor-Mesek, director of the Institute for Soviet Studies in Frankfurt.

The report is a comprehensive survey of nuclear facilities, from atomic-powered submarines to nuclear power plants, research centres, uranium mines and plutonium factories, West Am Sonntag said.

It covered in detail problems that have become evident since the breakup of the Soviet Union and the splintering of the huge Soviet nuclear complex.

Case of lax security or safety abound. There are fears that low funding could lead to accidents and environmental disasters, and that terrorists and rogue countries could buy weapons-grade nuclear materials sold into the black market by poorly paid nuclear technicians.

Among the details in the article:

## Castro lashes out at U.S. embargo

HAVANA (R) — Tens of thousands of Cubans led by President Fidel Castro marched to condemn the U.S. economic embargo on Cuba, and Mr. Castro said his country would fight for 100 years more to resist a U.S. threat.

Wearing his familiar olive-green fatigues, the Cuban leader described the pro-government rally in Havana as "a miracle of patriotism and revolutionary spirit."

He said at least half a million people took part in the march, despite a torrential rain shower lasting some 20 minutes that delayed the procession half an hour.

Mr. Castro joined the front

of the demonstration marking the anniversary of 1994 riots quelled by the authorities after the rain stopped.

The Cuban president, speaking at the end of the one-hour march that filled the four kilometre Malecon Seafront, condemned what he called the "cruel and unjust" U.S. embargo against the Communist-led island.

He said Cuba could not expect quick relief from the embargo because "extremist elements" in the United States were dictating U.S. policy. Mr. Castro was apparently referring to right-wing Republicans who dominate U.S. Congress and

want to tighten the restrictions.

"If these extremist elements triumph, and manage to win control not only of the Senate but also the government, this will mean for us new periods of dangers, risks and blockades," Mr. Castro said. "So I'm not exaggerating when I say, if we have to fight 100 years more, then we will fight 100 years more."

Several hundred foreign guests attending an international youth festival in Havana, including many from the United States, also took part in the demonstration.

## Kazakh nuclear activists march on Hiroshima bomb anniversary

ALMATY (R) — Anti-nuclear activists from Kazakhstan began a two-day "march of peace" Sunday to the Chinese border to mark the 50th anniversary of the U.S. atom bombing of Japan and to protest at nuclear testing in China.

Some recently,

Mr. Nazarbayev's first act

when the Soviet Union split

in 1991 was to halt testing.

This April Kazakhstan moved its last SS-18 missiles

to Russia to become a nuclear weapons-free state.

Controversy still rages over

how badly people in Kazakhstan suffered from airburst

radiation exposure and re-

search has been limited.

At a weekend symposium Zitta Mazhitova, head of a children's health centre, compared the impact of nuclear testing to AIDS — which kills victims by destroying their resistance to infection.

"The whole world is con-

cerned by AIDS, but our

children are suffering from an

ecological immuno-

deficiency," she said.

Health Ministry radiologist Rizatay Aitmagambetov said his research found the death rate had doubled and birth

rate halved over the past 30

years in four regions around Semipalatinsk.

Birth defects, immune de-

ficiencies, nervous disorders,

blood illnesses and cancer

rates had all surged over the

period to official figures.

There were 113 tests above

ground before 1963, "sacrificing the health of half a

million people to the senseless nuclear arms race," Presi-

dent Nursultan Nazarbayev

said.

Karibek Kuyukov, who

joined the march, was born in

1968 without arms — the

result, his doctors said, of

nuclear blasts 150 kilometres

from his village.

His father, Telai, who wit-

nessed tests in the 1950s as a

child, lost his father, mother

and sister to cancer. Two of

his children died in the 1960s

aged just a few months.

Mr. Karibek is now an

artist — painting landscapes

using brushes held in his

mouth and between his toes

— and a spokesman for

Kazakhstan's test victims.

He said struggling local

people were still risking ex-

posure to radiation by return-

ing to the test range to collect

scrap metal which they sell to

Kazakhstan's test victims.

Controversy



# Opinion & Analysis

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1995

## Jordan Times

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## Hiroshima's lingering warning

SUNDAY MARKED the 50th anniversary of the use of a nuclear weapon against people. The bomb that the U.S. dropped in Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945 was aimed as much at bludgeoning of war-time Japan as at using the Japanese city and its people as the testing ground and guinea pigs for the world's first nuclear attack as documents suggest.

Regardless of the reasons, the people of Hiroshima as well as Nagasaki, the second Japanese city that was "nuked" two days later, paid dearly with their lives for the designs of a nuclear power if only to demonstrate for the world the barbaric dimensions of the atomic bomb. But beyond that and more important, however, was that the attacks were the gravest warning to the world against the acceptability of the use of nuclear weapons.

The Geneva Conventions of 1948 and two additional protocols adopted in the late seventies gave the strongest expression to the total rejection of the use of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear arms, and categorised their use as crimes against humanity. This explains the reluctance of several nuclear powers to become parties to the First Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions as the major nuclear nations continue to build up their nuclear arsenals.

Obviously, the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have not dawned on the big and mighty, and it would seem that we could do little to dissuade them. But the situation gets graver when we look around us and see smaller countries busy trying to join the league of nuclear powers unabated by the decision to extend the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The dark experience of Japan with the deployment of nuclear bombs has yet to catch the imagination of the international community. Instead of inspiring nations to forsake such dreadful weapons, countries of all sizes continue on the path of acquiring or possessing them.

For us in Jordan, nuclear activities in Israel continue to be a major source of concern since anything going wrong in the Israeli plant at Dimona or elsewhere could have a devastating effect on our people. Indeed, the Jordanian-Israeli agreement to work towards the elimination of weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East is the key avenue through which Jordan would continue to seek to allay the concern of all in the region over Israel's nuclear programme.

In the meantime, however, we cannot but remember the hundreds of thousands of Japanese victims of the attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We join the Japanese people on the sad occasion of the anniversary of the attacks in efforts to consolidate the international will and determination to eliminate nuclear threats to human life.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Dustour said Sunday that human rights violations are on the increase in the self-rule areas under control by the Palestine National Authority (PNA) and the Palestinian people should stand firm in the face of such violations and refuse to see their long struggle for independence and freedom resulting in oppression. Yasser Arafat said that a report by the London-based Amnesty International released in May speaks of the secret trials of opponents to the PNA rule and repressive measures against opposition groups. He said that the repressive measures and the human rights violations which have been conducted by the PNA under pressure from the Israeli authorities included the closure of opposition newspapers, and arrest of journalists among other practices. The writer said that another Amnesty International report issued last month speaks of imprisonment without trial of opposition leaders and journalists who are treated inhumanely with their basic human rights violated. Furthermore, said the writer, a report by Committee for the Defence of Mosques in Palestine speaks of assaults and attacks against imams in the mosques and the worshippers. The writer said the Palestinians have struggled for so long against occupation not for the sake of reaching a stage in which they are treated in a manner no better than that of the occupation forces.

AL RA'I Arabic daily said Sunday that the time has come for the Arabs to transcend the situation that has persisted since the Gulf crisis because it said it is unreasonable to succumb to American desires with regard to Iraq and it is unacceptable to see the Iraqi people suffering endlessly. The paper said the Arabs ought to end their boycott of Iraq and refuse to remain totally submissive to Washington's carrot and the stick policy. The paper referred to an interview by His Majesty King Hussein with the Qatari news agency in the past week in which he called on the Arabs to consider the situation seriously and work towards ending the ordeal of the Iraqi people. He said that the King was clear in his demand that the Iraqi people should be able to exercise their natural right of living in peace and security free from further sufferings and that a dialogue should be opened to help reach this stage. It was natural to hear the King issuing this call to the Arab Nation at a time when Jordan is involved in preparing for the economic summit in Amman which, among other purposes, aims at regrouping the Arab countries and reestablishing solidarity among Arabs, said the paper. The paper called for inter-Arab cooperation not only in order to cater to the needs of the new stage in the peace era but also for the sake of safeguarding the national interests of the Arab World.

## Human Rights file

# Turkey moves to appease Europe

By Waleed Sa'di

THE TURKISH parliament recently adopted a number of constitutional amendments aimed at bringing Turkey's political norms and human rights record closer to those of Europe. The highlights of these changes included lowering the voting age from 21 to 18, permitting the politicisation of professional unions and syndicates and allowing state employees and functionaries to form an association of their own to protect and promote their interests. These changes are significant in content and implications, since Ankara's Western neighbours insist on their introduction to pave the way for an eventual integration of Turkey into Europe. What cannot be understood, though, is another amendment in the constitution that accords prisoners the right to vote.

We in Jordan certainly do not have to copy the changes introduced to the Turkish constitution. Turkey is trying to become a member of a club of nations which is still "alien" to the Middle East or the Arab and Muslim Worlds in many ways. We in this part of the world are still trying to create new social, economic and political climates that would make possible the application of the norms of the Western civilisation in matters touching on human rights and democracy. Turkey offers a prime example of the ebbs and flows in the application of pluralistic democracy in an Islamic milieu. Its unique geographic place between Europe and the Near East makes it an ideal place for experimenting with ways and means to bridge the gap between the Western and Middle Eastern civilisations. In this sense, Turkey could serve as a model for its Islamic neighbours who are in the midst of a dynamic process of modernisation.

But before we can ever attempt to appreciate the new amendments in the Turkish constitution, we should make a short stop and also appreciate the conditions that made the introduction of the original provisions necessary in the eyes of the military regime that assumed power in 1981. It was the government of General Kenan Evren that forbade trade and professional associations from engaging in political activities after the country fell into a quagmire of

terror and counter terror. At the time, priority was for maintaining stability and security. Once the country was able to catch its breath and reestablish normalcy, the military government gave way to civilian rule and the reintroduction of democracy.

Still, we can debate the major constitutional changes that were introduced in Turkey and see how they may relate to us. The politicisation of trade and professional associations in particular has mushroomed of late into a major controversy with many of us calling on lawyers, doctors and engineers to stick to their domain of concern instead of concentrating on political considerations that appear to fall outside the purview of their by-laws and objectives. There is no doubt that professional associations are established in the first place to advance the cause of their respective professions. This purpose should continue to be the primary goal. But people of all walks of life are also political animals who cannot separate their daily lives and trades from political issues whether domestic or external. The big question that remains is whether associations can succeed in reconciling the requirements of their primary objectives with their involvement in political issues. In retrospect, the answer cannot be but relative as it depends on the ability to carry out one ordinary function without precluding the primary objective.

The controversy over the legitimate functions of professional associations arose not because unions profess one political opinion or another but because it was established that their functions have become lopsided with their basic goals overtaken by secondary aims. Turkey's way of resolving this issue remains interesting since it fluctuated between one position and the other over the years.

The even more interesting amendment introduced to the Turkish constitution is granting civil servants the right to form a union of their own. The Turkish amendment did not go, though, as far as according state employees the right to strike. Civil servants unions in Turkey would, therefore, confine their mandate to the promotion and protection of

their interests and welfare. There can be nothing wrong in this shift in policy as far as I can see. As long as state employees' association aims to advance their cause and protect them from arbitrary practices and policies, it would be sensible to allow the establishment of a specific organisation geared to cater to their peculiar needs. The new Turkish provision on this issue makes clear that the right to form a civil servants' association does not mean the right to go on strike over grievances. The outlawing of strikes appears just and sound. No state can afford to interrupt the usual operations of government on working days. The health, security and stability of the public are so closely dependent on the full and normal functioning of state activities that no other "right" may be allowed to interfere with it or supersede it. This has been the logic of all nations across the board. This aspect of Turkish experience is relevant to our discussions on the "right" of teachers to form their own "club." We have opted not to allow our educators to establish their own union on the grounds that they are state employees and their duties are so fundamental and important that nothing should be permitted to disrupt them. On balance, though, as long as teachers are denied the power to go on a strike to press a certain point or another, I do not see any real and legitimate reasons to deny them the choice of forming their own association or not.

Jordan is part of the region and also a part of the international community. We must continue to learn from the experiences of others and offer our own experiences to them. We are not an island unaffected by what goes around us. The Turkish experiments in widening the democratisation process is certainly one that we can examine and profit from. The importance of Turkey to us lies in many factors, among which is the common religion and the sharing of many traditions. Still, we have our own peculiar conditions that would require the application of our own ways, provided that the basic norms that have become part of the common international law are observed and respected.

## Laying the ground for arms control pacts

By Jane Hunter

ALL BUT unnoticed, the multilateral arms control talks established by the 1991 Middle East peace talks in Madrid have taken on a robust life of their own. While the talks have yielded only minor tangible results, participants believe they are laying the groundwork for arms control pacts that could be struck after Israel concludes peace accords with its adversaries, a U.S. official familiar with the talks said.

Participants in the operational sessions have discussed sharing information on routine military activities and exchanging the information on routine military activities and changing the curricula vitae of senior military officials. There have also been discussions about avoiding maritime incidents and cooperation in maritime search and rescue operations.

### Focus on confidence building

The decision to focus on confidence building came after months of wrangling. Arab governments initially demanded that the talks focus on Israel's nuclear arsenal. But they ultimately fell in line with the agenda of Moscow and Washington — and Israel's adamant preference for confidence building. A compromise developed at the September 1992 ACRS session in Moscow forged an

ties of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In a meeting in Jordan last October, the parties finalised a proposal for a regional conflict prevention and security centre that is seen as interacting with world and regional arms control agencies.

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### Focus on confidence building

The conceptual ACRS sessions have imbibed a great deal of education about the nuts and bolts of arms control negotiations and verification processes, which, all the parties agree, will be vital part of a Middle East arms accord.

Initially, the Palestinians were excluded, on the grounds that they did not have a state with a military infrastructure. But since May 1993, the Palestinians have been welcomed at the ACRS session, which, the U.S. official told MEI, count "socialisation" and the development of a knowledgeable coterie of individuals among their achievements. "It is a very unique process," he said.

Participants have taken turns hosting the ACRS talks. The most recent session was held in Helsinki in late May and early June. Before that there were meetings in the U.S., Russia, Egypt, Tunisia, Qatar and Turkey. A plenary was held twice a year, set the agenda for both "baskets."

It is in the "conceptual basket" that the details of a future regional arms control regime are being worked out. But they are only discussed abstractly — to determine if they might be applicable to the region. Not surprisingly, the dynamics of this abstract dialogue parallel those at play this spring in the negotiations to renew the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The Arab states, led by Egypt, strongly resisted the indefinite extension of the NPT (which was sought by the U.S. and ultimately achieved) without a resolution of Israel's status as an undeclared nuclear power and a non-signatory of the treaty. The Arab objective was to force Israel to commit itself to open for inspection, and ultimately relinquish, its nuclear arsenal, a process that would be accom-

plished by Israeli accession to the NPT.

In a paper detailing Israel's position on the issue in the ACRS talks, Eytan Bentur, a senior deputy director of the foreign affairs ministry, argues delicately that Israel is "the one state in the Middle East that is not a member of military or political coalitions in the region" and "this reality has to be taken into account and should be reflected in future arms control arrangements." As it did during the NPT negotiations, Israel also insists that it will not relinquish its "deterrent" to join a regional zone free of weapons of mass destruction until the nations of that zone have reached a comprehensive peace agreement.

All of the parties have concurred on the conceptual desirability of a weapons-free zone, the official told MEI. But the problem is delineating its boundaries. Israel is known to want to include all its potential enemies, the most notable of which — Iran, Iraq, Sudan and Libya — are not involved in the ACRS process. An Israeli-Syrian peace agreement is likely to put "a lot of momentum" into sur-

mounting these burdens, the official said.

Israel, meanwhile, is reeling in the normality of attending meetings in Arab states:

(The talks in Doha ended in rancour, with Gulf government accusing the U.S. of pushing them into a backdoor acceptance of Israel and its nuclear weapons.) Israel is also pleased with the September 1992 agenda, which it regards as the first ever multilateral Arab-Israeli draft agreement and a significant achievement, according to Shai Feldman, an expert on Israeli nuclear policy.

The official familiar with the talks says the NPT process "enriched the (ACRS) discussion" and "helps move (it) forward." He also said that Israel's launch of the Ofeq military satellite in April has not set back the proceedings.

However, an official source in Washington told MEI that, as it was in the NPT negotiations, Egypt continues to be a "problem" in the arms talks. Cairo, according to the source, is caught in a bind because the Egyptians want to have a special place in the peace process, and that

place is threatened each time another Arab state reconciles with Israel.

More concretely, in this is official's view, Egypt sees Jordan's peace with Israel entitling Amman to a bigger slice of the U.S. foreign aid pie — just as budget cuts and the isolationism of the Republican-dominated Congress are gobbling up that pie. In an earlier interview with MEI an Egyptian official insisted that Egypt was not in the least worried about its post-peace status.

### Nuts and bolts of arms control

The conceptual ACRS sessions have imbibed a great deal of education about the nuts and bolts of arms control negotiations and verification processes, which, all the parties agree, will be vital part of a Middle East arms accord.

Participants have detailed the experiences of Washington and Moscow over the years, as they sought to reduce the risk of nuclear war and then, to reduce nuclear and conventional armaments. During the May 1992 session, held in Washington, participants toured the U.S. location of the Nuclear Risk Reduction Centre set up by the U.S. and USSR during the cold war to exchange information about nuclear activities.

They also toured the State Department's agency that handles inspections to verify arms agreements between Washington and Moscow.

The ACRS parties also talk, albeit abstractly, about their own weapons. The chief concern here is weapons of mass destruction — Israel's nuclear arsenal and the chemical and biological weapons programmes developed by some Arab states in response. The Arab governments are "not all of one mind" on chemical weapons, the official told MEI, noting that not all of them have signed the treaty limiting chemical weapons.

(Some have withheld their signatures to demand concessions on Israel's nuclear programme.)

Attention is also given to conventional arms, for which the region has an insatiable appetite. When the talks began, the focus was on "supplier restraint." But, according to the official familiar with the ACRS talks, this effort founders when the Bush administration — the principal advocate of restraint, despite its own multi-billion dollar sales to the region in the aftermath of the war against Iraq — concluded a sale of F-16 aircraft to Taiwan. That upset China, which supplies missiles and other weapons systems to several regional governments, according to the official.

Operations are hastily planned to impossible timetables. Officers who dare to tell politicians the truth are victimised.

Officers said they were shocked by rampant corruption and the needless loss of life and enormous expenditure which occurred in ill-planned offensives meant to meet short-term political goals rather than military objectives.

Operations are hastily planned to impossible timetables. Officers who dare to tell politicians the truth are victimised.

The army's strength has risen to 100,000 from just 12,000 in 1983 while the Tigers have grown from a few dozen rebels to some 15,000 fighters with their own makeshift navy, nascent air arm and a fearsome reputation for Kamikaze attacks.

An example, they said, was last month's offensive in which troops advanced to within six km of the northern rebel stronghold of Jaffa, only to withdraw when a Tiger counter-attack showed they could not hold captured ground.

The offensive failed as it was planned with indecent haste, was not realistic and was over-ambitious given the military's resource constraints.

## Sri Lanka military faces crisis

By Rohan Gunasekera

Reuter

COLOMBO — Despite a stunning victory in beating back a Tamil Tiger raid, last week Sri Lanka's military is in crisis, plagued by poor leadership, manpower problems and political interference, defence officials say.

"The setbacks suffered by the armed forces are due more to military incompetence than the brilliance of the Tigers, however good in battle they are," a senior military officer said.

"We must get rid of the passengers and yes men in the military," he told Reuters this week. "If we continue like this we're heading for disaster."

Some officers directing the war either did not have combat experience or were noted for battlefield failures, he added.

The military won a huge victory on Friday when it beat off a ferocious raid by Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas in northeastern Welioya, killing more than 300 rebels for the loss of just two soldiers.

The Tigers captured a large amount of arms and ammunition when they overran the same base more than a year ago.

Friday's victory was an exception to the string of disasters the military has suffered at the hands of the Tigers, who have overrun several bases in recent years and captured or destroyed patrol boats, aircraft and battle tanks.

Experienced officers were apalled by the disregard for the rules of warfare military commanders have shown in their eagerness to satisfy their political masters.

"The military campaign has been marked by indecisiveness and confusion," an army field commander told Reuters.

"Operations are hastily planned to impossible timetables. Officers who dare to tell politicians the truth are victimised."

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## Features

# Marseille keeps racial peace, offering hope to France

By Mort Rosenblum  
*The Associated Press*

**MARSEILLE** — Neither war in Algeria nor terror in Paris has moved Marseille, the ancient cornerstone of France that today stands as a bastion against widely feared racial explosions.

"I'm not sure why, but the lid stays on here, and that keeps other pots from boiling over in other places," said Salah Bariki, an Algerian-born community leader. "Let us hope it lasts."

Elsewhere in France, and in Europe, large mixes of Muslim immigrants and of conservative natives who vote to the right have proved volatile. Racial tensions often flare into violence.

In Marseille, where one person in six is Muslim and many French are still bitter from having to abandon Algeria 40 years ago, there is tenuous peace.

Police squads banged on North Africans' doors in search of clues to the July 25 Paris subway bombing. But, unlike in Lyon and other cities, few voices rose in protest.

In December, gendarmes stormed a jumbo jet at Marseille airport, killing four Algerian hijackers, but hardly a ripple was felt in town. No one took to the streets

when thugs of the right-wing National Front fatally shot a Comoran immigrant, black and Muslim, who jeered when they put up posters of party leader Jean-Marie Le Pen for the May presidential election.

Jocelyne Cesari, a French sociologist and expert on Third World immigrants, calls Marseille a likely prototype for uneasy coexistence among separate communities as a new Europe changes colour.

"At first, Le Pen wanted to build a stronghold in Marseille, where some sections voted over 30 per cent for his National Front," she said. "But he gave up in disgust and focused on fringe areas."

Marseille was the port from which France ruled its colonies. Less than two generations later, it is a crippled hulk, jobless and crime-ridden, mired in the backwash of empire.

Just across the Mediterranean from Algiers and Tunis, and at the end of a boat ride from former French colonies in black Africa, it is a natural stopping point for people moving north.

In the glory days, one million people lived here, working at vast shipyards and thriving factories. Maritime moguls dwelt in splendour off the downtown canebiere. He-

roin kings ran the French connection.

Because of fierce strikes and competition from other ports, Marseille fell on times so hard that even the mob left town. The fabled nightife is deadly dull. Only intrepid tourists stay long.

Now the population is 840,000, including 100,000 Algerians and other Arabs and 50,000 black Africans. More Comorans — 25,000 — live in Marseille than on their destitute islands off South Africa.

The city is divided in two: white French families south from the Canebiere to the sea, Arabs and Africans to the north, up through miles of cheaply built housing projects where police fear to tread.

Once posh townhouses on Napoleon III's grand thoroughfares are subdivided into squallid immigrant flats. Elegant terraced apartments in the heart of Marseille can be had for a song.

Marseille's harbour has welcomed foreign wanderers since the ancient Greeks built an outpost and planted the vines and olive trees that later spread into the surrounding Provence region.

This time, however, new arrivals are resisting the old Marseille melting pot.

Not far from the old port, good shepherd street is a cabash of Islamic butchers, men sipping mint tea in blue-tiled cafés and Arabic satellite television blaring late into the night.

By the nearby Porte d'Aix, a shiny new McDonald's and fancy government buildings are islands in a North African city of sweets shops, prayer halls, couscous joints and an open-air bazaar.

The street language is Arabic. When French is heard, it is often spoken in heavy African accents.

Feelings run high on both sides of the line but, for all the sparks over the past months and years, it is a powder keg that has not ignited.

"Most Arabs live in denial, refusing to believe anything is wrong, and they get along as best they can," said Mr. Bariki, the community leader who is a member of Marseille Esperance, the mayor's committee to promote racial harmony.

"Maybe it would be better if they organised and worked for better conditions, but they don't," he said. "There are no community groups. The truth is, I don't really represent anybody."

City hall employs 13,000 people and perhaps a half-dozen are Arabs, all in minor

posts. The police force is almost all white French, as are officially licensed taxi drivers.

"This is the only city in France where even the street sweepers are white," Mr. Bariki said, with a rueful laugh.

For immigrants, unemployment is about 25 per cent, twice the national average. That leaves petty trading, services, marginal professions and crime.

A small industry thrives in caves beneath apartment buildings in the northern neighbourhoods: Young men work all night to dismantle stolen cars. Purse-snatching and burglary are rampant.

"Perhaps it's just as well," Jean-Marc Matalon, a radio journalist, said with a shrug. "If it weren't for the income from crime, the Marseille pot would probably boil over."

Police officials, fearful of the potential for sudden, serious violence, try to keep temperatures down. Even literally. In summer, they bus youngsters to the beach from northern housing projects.

After the Paris bombing, police teams tried to avoid rough treatment while checking identity papers and using intelligence leads into the inner city.

Mr. Cesari, the sociologist, said that most likely, people

get along in Marseille because they have defined territories and worked out ways of living within their own cultures without fearing intrusion from others.

She said racism turns murderous in cities and villages where old families panic at strange customs, blaming the outsiders for tough times.

Immigrants revolt when they feel powerless and under attack.

Marseille's immigrants, comfortable in their numbers, avoid explosive frustration, and they warn off aggression with an aggressiveness for their own.

In Toulon, down the coast, and elsewhere in France, assaults on Muslims are frequent, and victims seek revenge. This may increase, sociologists say, but time may also bring more tolerance, as Marseille has shown.

At their Tunis Carthage restaurant, the chaouche cousins have been making it in Marseille for 30 years, serving steaming plates of rice and lamb to old-timers and newcomers just off the boat.

"We have no trouble here, no attacks, no remarks on the street," Moander Chaouche said. "Marseille is hard, but it is a good place. In Toulon, that's different. The people are crazy there."

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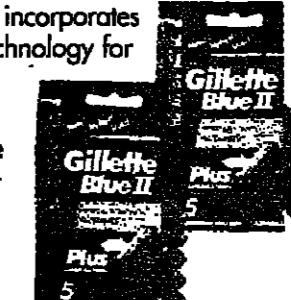
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## Casinos get one roll of the dice closer to approval

By Jose Rosenfeld  
and Itim

**ISRAEL HAS** moved one step closer to legalise casino gambling when the Inter-ministerial Committee on the Establishment of Legalised Casino Gambling appointed a professional committee that will make recommendations on legislation within 60 days.

Last month the cabinet approved in principle the establishment of casinos. Tourism Minister Uzi

Baram, who is spearheading the initiative, sees the establishment of a casino in Eilat as the only way to deal with the competition created by the existing casino in Taba and the proposed casino in Aqaba.

Mr. Baram told the inter-ministerial committee that his ministry had commissioned a public opinion poll which found 60 per cent of the population supports the establishment of a casino, while 37 per cent oppose it. In Eilat, 65 per cent of residents favour a casino

and 21 per cent oppose it.

The professional committee, which will be headed by former income tax commissioner Moshe Gavish, who is now managing director of the Mercantile Discount Bank, was directed to consider: the establishment of a gambling oversight body; the location and number of legal casinos and the types of games allowed; the size of gambling halls; limitations on the placement of gambling machines; taxation of

casino revenues; ownership and operation of casinos; licensing requirements; limitations on entry to casinos and advertising; and special law enforcement provisions.

Its members will include representatives of the Finance, Justice, Education, Environment and Tourism ministries, all of whose ministers serve on the inter-ministerial committee.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein suggested that Mifal Hapayis

be placed in charge of establishing a casino, but Finance Minister Avraham Shohat opposed the idea. He did agree, however, that the professional committee study the proposal.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal announced his resignation from the inter-ministerial committee, claiming that in naming a professional committee it was exceeding the authority granted by the government. But Justice Minister David Libai maintained that the government had

authorised the committee to recommend legislation.

The Masorti (Conservative) Movement, meanwhile, expressed its deep disappointment, telling Israel Radio that Baram had implied there would be casinos not only in Eilat but also near the Dead Sea and in the centre of the country.

Gambling is against both Jewish tradition and the Zionist ideal of a people living by the work of its hands, the movement said.

*The Jerusalem Post.*

## King entrusts

(Continued from page 1)

prosperity.

Therefore, I entrust Your Majesty with the establishment and chairmanship of the "National Task Force for Children," comprised of the finest concerned individuals and professionals in the field of children's affairs from both the public and private sectors.

I hereby maintain the necessity for the coordination of all endeavours and institutional undertakings through this task force and emphasise our need for a clear vision.

Education objectives, and comprehensive awareness of the long-term advantages of scientific study to cultivate a free, informed, open-minded

and tolerant new generation, capable of rising in the face of future challenges.

I am confident that Jordan is capable of realising more of its aspirations and attaining further accomplishments through the labours of its fine people working to achieve the noble objectives of the International Declaration on the Rights of the Child, the fruits of which, we hope, will benefit all children in Jordan.

I wish you much success and hope that this task force becomes a venerable milestone in Jordan's achievements, which are built on a tradition of love, cooperation, spiritual unity, freedom and justice.

God's peace and blessings be upon you.

## 50 years

(Continued from page 1)

predictions and sprang back to its feet in a few years.

Taiko Nayamura, a boy of 10 then, who was away from Hiroshima at the time of the attack but returned to his hometown three weeks later to join the restoration work that started in days after the blast, said he believed that the "sheer Japanese will to live" was the key to Hiroshima's recovery.

"We the Japanese always had and still have a strong instinct for survival," said Mr. Nayamura, sitting in the rooftop bar of a landmark hotel in Hiroshima. "The people of Hiroshima cared little for warnings of radiation simply because they had already lost everything. They plunged to reconstruction with whatever little they had."

"The result is," added the man with an expansive gesture at the glittering lights and the impressive industrial skyline of Hiroshima, "is what you see around us today. We simply don't give up."

## Arab League

(Continued from page 1)

Arab countries would also promise to combat terrorism and refrain from giving help or sanctuary to extremist groups in their territories.

Arab diplomats said the document was largely symbolic and was not expected to end fears and doubts resulting from the Gulf war. Arab governments are already

## Jordan demands

(Continued from page 1)

Mount Faithfuls should prompt a firm and immediate action by the Israeli government so that their actions will not have negative effects on the peace process," Mr. Kabariti said.

Jordan's ambassador to Israel Marwan Muasher Sunday conveyed to the Israeli government Jordan's position, which rejects the Israeli settlers' actions in occupied Jerusalem.

The government spokesman said the Jordanian government reaffirms that is the duty of the Israeli authorities

to prevent any abuse of the Al Aqsa Mosque in implementation of Clause Two of Article Nine of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, adding that Israel has the responsibility to safeguard the peace process through which the different parties are working to attain a just, comprehensive and lasting peace that will preserve the right of all parties without any discrimination.

The Arab League also issued a statement condemning the ruling by Israel's supreme court. It said such a move could only increase tensions, according to Reuters news agency report.

The league statement on the Temple Mount, came on a day when Israeli police closed the area to visitors to

prevent a confrontation between Muslims and Jewish extremists.

He said that the government has instructed the ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to follow up on this issue through its officials in Jerusalem and to take all measures that would safeguard the Al Aqsa Mosque and ensure its continued safety and sanctity.

It said the decision violated Israel's supreme court last week ruled in favour of the group, granted its members the right to tour, but not to pray, in the area atop the mount that includes the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa mosques.

It said the decision violated Israel's 1993 peace pact with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and U.N. resolutions that urge against any action to change the status of institutions in Jerusalem.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa also said his government was concerned about the court decision.

Iraq and Kuwait, which still refuses to restore ties with Arab states that supported Baghdad in the Gulf war, were among countries urging the charter.

## Draft law seeks to boost accessibility, trading at AFM

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In its bid to strengthen the investment climate in Jordan ahead of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit, the government is working on a draft law aimed at facilitating share and stock trading and increasing accessibility to the Amman Financial Market (AFM).

The draft law, which is being prepared by the AFM, will be presented "hopefully" before Parliament ends its current extraordinary session, deputy director general of the AFM, Jalil Tarif said.

Parliament is about to discuss new income, sales tax and investment laws, in addition

to the AFM draft law. "There should be transparency in economic policies," director general of the AFM, Dr. Umaya Toukan said. "Legislation should only contain guidelines with bylaws that can be amended without having to change the guidelines."

Regarding the AFM draft law, Mr. Jalil explained that one main feature of this law is allowing dual listing of companies. This means that Jordanian companies now will be listed on international financial markets, and foreign companies will be listed on the Jordanian financial market. By allowing that, international investors will come from the sales tax.

As for the investment law, the new law will equate

Jordanian and non-Jordanian investors, and will simplify government bureaucracy. Foreign investors will be able to compete with local investors. "This competition will improve the quality of goods and services, so they meet international standards," Dr. Toukan said.

While personal and corporate income taxes will be cut, sales tax will be increased from its current seven per cent to 10. Dr. Toukan explained that this way, the private sector would be able to save more money that can be used to reinvest, while the government's main revenue will come from the sales tax.

For the investment law, the new law will equate

company shares, thereby increasing the investment drive in the local market and facilitating the procedure for Jordanian companies to raise funds from abroad.

The draft law will also oblige Jordanian companies to provide the stock exchange with their quarterly, semi-annual and yearly reports of their financial status and any changes that will affect their share prices, explained Mr. Tarif.

Mr. Tarif said that the draft law will call for the establishment of a central depository and clearing agency to facilitate trading, and settlement between brokers and their clients, replacing the previous system of separate registration at each individual

listed company.

The draft law will also encourage small investors to invest their savings through mutual funds. The funds, administered by experienced managers, will invest on behalf of investors who have limited knowledge in the market, explained Mr. Tarif. It will be inspected by the AFM.

Another main issue referred to in the draft law is the brokerage system. The new law will allow the AFM the authority to organise the brokerage system by increasing their independence and capital.

"This will allow for the establishment of a regulatory body or security and exchange commission," Mr. Toukan said.

Tarif said. This commission will control and regulate the capital in the market including the stock exchange, while at the same time the private sector will have a say in managing the stock exchange. "The draft law will strengthen the role of brokerage system in order to have this separation," Mr. Tarif explained.

"Government should not have any business with business," Dr. Toukan said.

He also said the private sector should work hard to change its "attitude" if it expects to succeed. "For the past 45 years, the private sector was simply implementing government projects," he said. "Now it has to find new ways and mechanisms to finance projects, and invest."

The private sector will also be expected to take a leading role in the operation and management of future projects. In the MENA summit alone, a list of 27 projects amounting to \$3.5 billion have been prepared. In addition, over 100 projects of small and medium industries have also been prepared and will most probably be implemented by the private sector. Projects in the Jordan Rift Valley will also be submitted in the summit.

Dr. Toukan said he believed the aims of the MENA summit are consistent with Jordan's priority, which is to alleviate poverty and unemployment, increase incomes, and create the right atmosphere for foreign investors.

## World Bank warns of impending global water scarcity

WASHINGTON (AP) — The world will spend \$600 billion over the next decade to augment water reserves, as demand spurred by urbanisation and agriculture outstrips available supplies, according to the World Bank.

"We are warning the world that there is a huge problem looming out there," said Ismail Serageldin, a bank vice president. "Unless current trends are reversed, we will have a worsening water crisis

around the planet."

Water is abundant in many parts of the world, but some 80 countries are experiencing water shortages serious enough to threaten agriculture, said a World Bank report, released Saturday. It was prepared for an international symposium in Stockholm starting Aug. 13.

With the world's population expected to expand from today's 5.6 billion to eight billion in 2025, demands on

water for households, industries and irrigation will grow rapidly.

Meanwhile, the supply is increasingly being contaminated by pollution from industry, domestic waste and farm chemicals, the paper said.

The water problem in most countries stems not from a shortage of water but rather from its inefficient and unsustainable use," Mr. Serageldin said. "We need to change our attitudes toward

water and stop wasting it the way we do."

Most countries with limited water are in the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where populations are growing fastest. Other regions facing water scarcity are northern China, southern India, western South America and large parts of Pakistan and Mexico.

Global demand for water, which has historically in-

creased at a rate of 2.3 per cent a year doubling every 21 years, must be slowed, the paper said.

It recommended that the problem be addressed by establishing associations of river and lake users to manage water, and by selling water at prices high enough to encourage conservation.

"The experts all agree on the need to do something fast," Mr. Serageldin said. "The main problem is the

lack of political will to carry out these recommendations."

Irrigation consumes 90 per cent of all water used in poor countries, the report said, but up to half of that is wasted and never reaches plants. An average 40 per cent of water leaving treatment plants in Third World cities is lost.

Globally, the World Bank estimated that \$600 billion will be invested in projects to increase clean water output in the next 10 years.

Most will be raised within user countries, but 10 per cent of the money will come from abroad, mainly as aid for poor countries. The World Bank will participate with loans of up to \$40 billion.

"But the World Bank will not fund projects that look only at irrigation or only at municipal use," Mr. Serageldin warned. "We want to see how their use fits into the greater claim on this precious resource."

## Vietnam hails new U.S. trade prospects

HANOI (R) — Vietnam's official media trumpeted a new era in trade relations with the United States Sunday, as visiting U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher opened Washington's first embassy in the Vietnamese capital.

"The figures that speak for themselves" said a front-page headline in the English-language Vietnam News.

"As of this month a total of 36 U.S. company licences have been granted... already in the first half of 1995, a total of \$285 million has been invested. As the old proverb states 'the early bird catches the worm.'

But members of the American business community in Hanoi were taking a cooler view Sunday. Washington lifted its trade embargo against Hanoi only in February last year and U.S. investment still lags behind that of

American business, still handicapped by the lack of economic normalisation with Vietnam," said Virginia Foote of the U.S.-Vietnam Trade Council.

"I think air links and other matters which don't require a political decision will move right along now. But MFN (most favoured nation trading status) and others are the big ones... MFN will probably take a year," Ms. Foote said.

Businessmen who met Mr. Christopher over breakfast Sunday were also nonplussed about the prospects for any rapid change for U.S. firms.

"If all of a sudden 10,000 people get off a plane waving their money, that's not a good thing," said one executive.

"You should come, but you've got to be realistic when you come here," he added.

## S. American trade bloc seeks deal with EU

ASUNCION (AFP) — Member countries of South America's Southern Common Market (Mercosur) agreed Saturday to open negotiations with the European Union (EU) on creating what would be one of the world's largest free-trade zones.

The presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay — who constitute the Mercosur Council — ordered the group to begin negotiations at a technical level with the European Union on Sept. 14 in Brussels.

Talks will continue in Montevideo on Sept. 29 and throughout the following months with a final agreement expected to be signed between the four South American presidents and their 15 European counterparts around mid-December in Madrid.

President Bill Clinton may be invited to attend the signing ceremony, officials said.

The trade agreement would call for a progressive reduction in tariffs by the

year 2001 and to widen cooperation in several areas such as agriculture, industry, investment, transportation, and science and technology.

Mercosur was also to set guidelines for holding talks with the European Union on promoting democracy and human rights in the effort to strengthen political integration between the two groups.

A 24-point declaration by President Juan Wasmoy of Paraguay, President Carlos Menem of Argentina, President Fernando Cardoso of Brazil, and President Julio Sanguineti of Uruguay pledged to expand Mercosur's role in global free trade.

The heads of state "reiterate their political will to increase Mercosur's competitiveness and expand its role in the world... including participation in international agreements and forums dedicated to such aims," they said in a statement.

They also pledged to ratify economic cooperation agreements as early as possible with Chile and Bolivia.

The precise timeframe for both negotiating the free trade deal and putting it in place will be the subject of pending negotiations, a first phase of which is expected to

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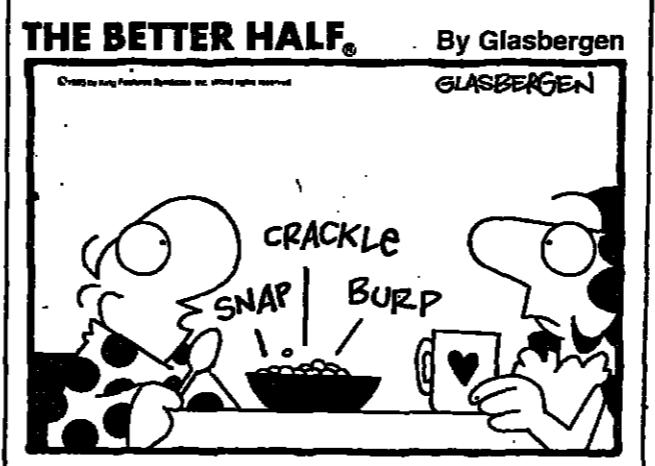
flow expected to total \$1.4 trillion.

In comparison, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the United States, Mexico and Canada creates a market of some 378 million people and generates \$1.6 trillion in trade.

The Mercosur-EU alliance would cover a territory of 567 million consumers with trade

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### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YASID

LUDGI

IKIBIN

URBAUN

Print answer here:

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHEEL GROIN BELLOW FORGOT Answer: What the obnoxious motorist was told — WHERE TO GO

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer; Carroll: Fighter Foundation

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Many restrictive conditions may upset you this morning, if you are not objective, and then tonight solve the problems quickly.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Steer clear of friends who are restless and want to run away from mutual interests. Tonight your mate can be very helpful.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 22) Avoid outside activities as much as you can during daytime today, but tonight is fine for gadding about town.

**MOON CHILDREN**: (June 22 to July 21) Stick to the tried and true during the daytime, but tonight study into something new and fascinating.

**LEO** (July 22 to August 21) Steer clear of a disagreement with a high-strung associate who is not very conventional and then tonight all works to your favour.

**VIRGO** (August 22 to September 22) Be kind with those who are upset and acting strangely and tonight, an associate gives you fine support on a new assignment.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Your work load may seem too heavy today, but if you plan your time wisely, you can handle it very well and quickly.

**SCORPIO**: (October 23 to November 21) Although you want to have a good time today, it is best you handle practical affairs during the daytime and save entertainment for tonight.

**SAGITTARIUS**: (November 22 to December 21) Do not get into disagreements at home during the daytime and tonight all will be serene there. Be gentle with a family tie who is irate.

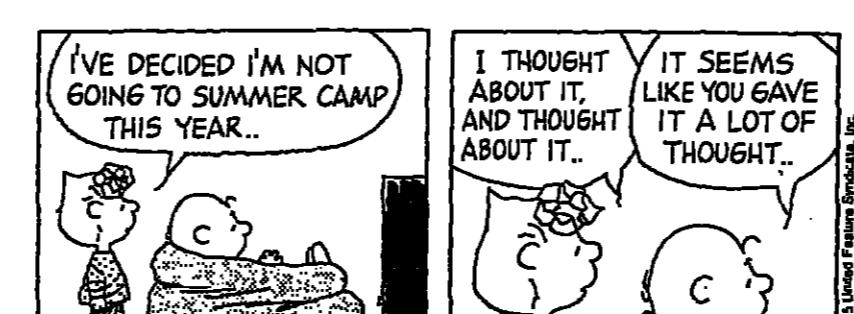
**CAPRICORN**: (December 22 to January 20) Much care in motion is necessary today and thereby avoid some kind of accident. Keep poised if associates are in a bad mood during the day.

**AQUARIUS**: (January 21 to February 19) You may be a little confused and could make mistakes where finances and real estate are concerned, but tonight, you think clearly.

**PISCES**: (February 20 to March 20) Although frustrated during the day, take it easy and tonight you gain fine benefits. Avoid pals who pressure you in some way.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

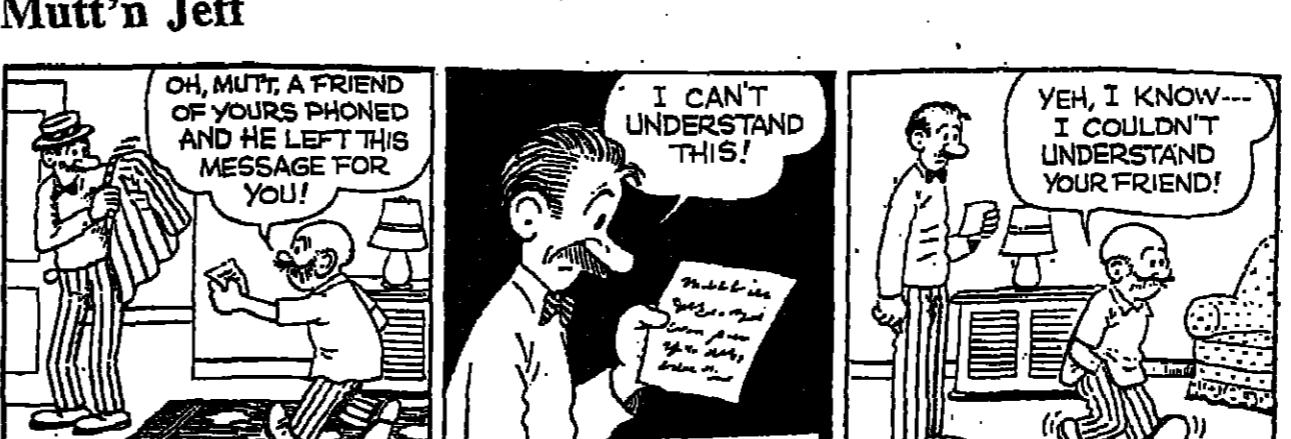
### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n Jeff



# Business & Finance

**Business  
Daily  
Dear**

A review  
of economic news  
from the Arabic press

## CJB, Israeli officials discuss banking issues

Dr. Toukan said he believed the aims of the summit are consistent with Jordan's priority, which is to alleviate poverty and unemployment, increase investment and create the right atmosphere for foreign invest-

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR #

DAY, AUGUST 7

By Thomas S. de

Aswadgar, Jordan

Foundation

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areas of your life.

Emirates of Arab

Champions

25-50%

Sale

on all

Summer Clothing

## Bankers tell Maxwell trial of nightmare borrowing

LONDON (R) — Robert Maxwell's main bankers said in court last week he forced them to lend money which, for at least one executive, turned into a nightmare worse than the Third World debt crisis of the early 1980s.

Robert Brown, testifying at the fraud trial of the late publisher's youngest son, Kevin and Ian Maxwell, was the corporate banker in charge of the Maxwell accounts at National Westminster (Natwest).

Mr. Brown said he was fined by his bosses and risked being sacked over big, unauthorised debts that were incurred by Robert Maxwell months before he died in 1991 and by Kevin.

In two days of testimony, Mr. Brown gave the jury a rare glimpse into frantic scrambling by lending banks once they discovered in 1991 Maxwell companies were suffering a severe cash crisis. He told the court he had been "entered early retirement" at one point if Robert and Kevin Maxwell had failed to make a particular loan payment that had been promised to Natwest.

Or another deal, he said "certainly I would have been sacked" if he had lost hold of

shares in an Israeli company called Scitex that the Maxwells gave him as security for loan.

Mr. Kevin has denied conspiring with his father to defraud pensioners by using Scitex shares that belonged to pension funds to raise loans for ailing private Maxwell companies.

Mr. Kevin, his brother, Ian, and a former Maxwell director have also denied another charge of conspiracy to defraud.

Mr. Brown said Robert and Kevin Maxwell promised to repay Natwest over \$100 million by selling the Scitex shares.

But when they asked him to hand over the shares a week before the sale, he refused, for fear Natwest would never get its money. He then made a special trip to New York to be present at the sale transaction and to ensure that the witness stand.

Mr. Brown, a balding man in a grey pinstripe suit, who spent 36 years as a banker, denied the accusation.

He also denied an accusa-

tion that he knowingly accepted pension funds as collateral for loans to the Maxwell.

"There was absolutely no reason why I should, at that state in my career, perform what amounted to an illegal or dishonest act," Mr. Brown said.

Maxwell accounts at Natwest repeatedly exceeded overdraft limits and one Maxwell company forced the bank to lend against its will by issuing dividend cheques for millions of pounds (dollars) for which there were no funds in the accounts.

Mr. Brown said the overdraws would have made it into the Guinness book of records and that the liquidity crisis in the Maxwell group would have registered eight on the Richter earthquake scale — strong enough to devastate a whole city.

Kevin Maxwell's lawyer provided rare courtroom fireworks when, nearly shouting, he accused Mr. Brown of preparing in advance the quotes he uttered while on the witness stand.

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Enron seeks arbitration in \$2.8b India deal

BOMBAY (R) — A U.S. consortium headed by Enron Corp. said Sunday it has begun arbitration proceedings over the scrapping of a \$2.8 billion power plant, India's biggest foreign investment project.

The Dabhol Power Co. (DPC), linking Enron and U.S. heavyweights General Electric Co. and Bechtel which together are building the plant, said it would seek damages if India's western state of Maharashtra did not stick to its contractual obligations.

While state officials appeared in no mood for compromise, DPC said that "it remains hopeful of reaching a mutually acceptable solution with the government of Maharashtra.

DPC said that it was "seeking a declaration that the government performs its contractual obligation or, alternatively, pay damages to DPC."

The state government of Maharashtra, of which Bombay is the capital, Thursday unilaterally scrapped the 2,015 megawatt power plant being built by the Enron-led consortium.

## Egypt aims to export natural gas to Jordan from year 2000

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt is to start exports to Jordan of 280 million cubic metres a day of natural gas over a 15-year period starting in 2000, Oil Minister Hamdi Al Babi said Sunday.

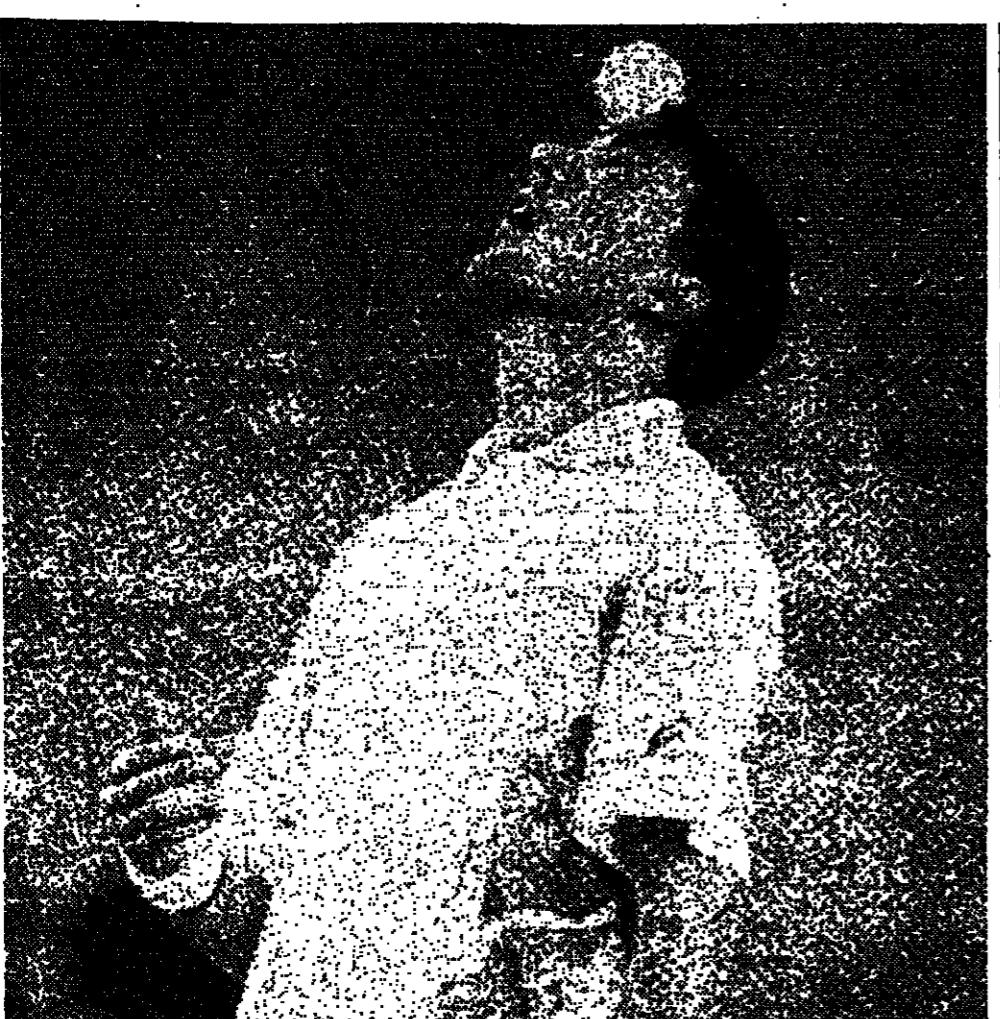
The minister said a study was being carried out to determine the course of a gas pipeline between the two countries, with Jordan wanting delivery in its Red Sea

port city of Aqaba.

In April, Mr. Babi said Egypt would be ready to export natural gas in 1998 after the development of new fields which would ensure self-sufficiency. Output in the second half of 1994 rose to 5.7 million tonnes.

Israel and the Palestinians also want to import Egyptian gas.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET		ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY		06/08/1995	
COMPANY'S NAME	NO. OF SHARES TRADED	TRADED J.D.	CLOSING PRICE	INDEX NUMBER	CHANGE
ARAB BANK PIC	420	90255	214.500	215.000	+0.00
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	3338	15251	4.570	4.570	-0.00
JORDAN COTTON	550	1670	3.380	3.400	+0.02
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	6950	9018	1.280	1.300	+0.02
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	8450	21299	2.520	2.520	-0.00
THE HOUSING BANK	10516	59618	5.400	5.670	+0.27
JORDAN COTTON BANK	368	1030	2.200	2.250	+0.05
JORDAN COTTON BANK	10200	1049	1.140	1.170	+0.03
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	1755	6611	3.780	3.790	+0.01
BUSINESS BANK	950	3666	3.850	3.880	+0.03
BRITISH SAVING INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	550	1991	3.650	3.620	-0.03
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	21350	23250	1.090	1.090	-0.00
	17900	29031	1.620	1.630	+0.01
	85964	276239	INDEX NUMBER: 179.17	179.17	0.00
			CHANGE: +0.63		
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	200	530	2.650	2.650	-0.00
THE NATIONAL AMALA INSURANCE	1000	3000	3.000	3.	



Goran Ivanisevic

## Ivanisevic falls to Enqvist

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sweden's Thomas Enqvist beat top-seeded Goran Ivanisevic at his own big-serving game on Saturday to reach the final of the ATP Tour men's tennis tournament here.

Enqvist, 21 and seeded fifth, blasted 16 aces past the lanky Croatian, did not drop a single service game and made fewer errors from the baseline to win 6-7 (3-7), 6-4, 6-4.

"I think I never served this good in my life," said Enqvist, who has won all three of this previous ATP Tour finals this year to jump to 16 in the world rankings.

"Especially against Goran, who serves very well, it's very important that you hold serve if it's so hard to break him," Enqvist said.

Ivanisevic had 22 aces himself, several in the 120 mph range, but the world number

seven, who has never won a tournament in the United States, made more mistakes on big points.

In the final Enqvist will meet second-seeded German Michael Stich, who defeated Jakob Hlasek 6-2, 6-4.

Nerves cost Enqvist a quicker finish. Serving for the match at 40-0 he made two forehand errors before Ivanisevic netted a backhand on the third match point.

Ivanisevic's only chance to break the Swede in the first set came in the eighth game, but Enqvist won both break points to keep the set level at 4-4.

"When I got to 4-all there, I felt I was in the game again," Enqvist said.

The first break of the match came in the ninth game of the second set, when Ivanisevic tried an ill-timed drop-shot on game point that fell short of the net.

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CONCORD "1"  
Ahmad Zaki, Layla Alwy and Mahmoud Hamedeh  
The Third Man  
(Arabic)  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30  
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Shows: 3:30, 5:30

**MAMOUN THEATRE**  
TEL: 618274 - 618275  
MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa"  
IN  
Hi Citizen daily at 8:30 pm written & directed by Mohammed Shawaqfeh

**Nabil & Hisham's Theatre**  
TEL: 675571  
Presents  
**KABARET**  
Abeer Issa  
Ghassan Mashini  
with Amer Khamash, Khalil Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein and Issam Al Hanbali  
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Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30, 10:30

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Sp

## Julio Cesar leads Dortmund to Supercup win

DUESSELDORF (AP) — Brazilian international Julio Cesar scored off a miscalculated pass Saturday as Borussia Dortmund beat Moenchengladbach 1-0 in the Supercup prelude to the German first division season.

The supercup pits the Bundesliga champion against the German Cup winner a week before the league season officially opens Aug. 12.

Dortmund, the defending champion whose forwards have been decimated by injuries, was unable to mount much offense the entire game until Stefan Effenberg lent them a hand in the 71st minute.

In the 76th minute, Joerg

Neun's potential equalizer bounced off the goalpost after a legal tug-of-war between the two clubs that lasted weeks. But Herrlich was not available to play Saturday.

Dortmund's offense sputtered with the 19-year-old Ricken and Moeller filling in for the injured starters.

"I feel a lot better in the midfield, but it was obviously the only solution today," said Moeller, the team's playmaker.

With strikers Stephane Chapuisat and Karlheinz Riedle still recovering from injury, Dortmund hopes that Stefan Klos on a corner kick. But the ball sailed straight to Dortmund's Knut Reinhardt, protecting the line, who

cleared it with his knee.

Despite playing three forwards, Moenchengladbach's offense was held in check by a Dortmund defense shored up by newly acquired Juergen Kohler. The veteran German international made his debut for his new team, reunited in the defensive unit with former Juventus Turin teammate Julio Cesar.

Dortmund's only chance in the first half came when midfielder Stefan Reuter charged up the center and unloaded a shot from 15 meters. It sailed just outside the net.

Moenchengladbach's

chance came off Swedish international Martin Dahlin's header as he outleaped goalie Stefan Klos on a corner kick.

But the ball sailed straight to

Dortmund's Knut Reinhardt,

protecting the line, who

No winner of the Supercup has gone on to capture the regular Bundesliga title since the event was inaugurated in 1987. Dortmund won in 1989 and on Saturday, in front of 35,000, became a two-time Supercup winner.

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Spanish soccer  
strike in protest  
their team Sevi  
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A crowd of 25  
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The Archduke said he was expe  
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In Vega, 20 km  
outside the ground  
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On Friday, the S

Martine

CARLSBAD, Calif.  
— Second-seed S  
Martine and fourth-se  
American Lisa Raymond  
both defeated French S  
Saturday to set up the S  
Tobiba Team Cup.

Martinez, 21, 100  
apart Mar. 1976, while Raymond, 21, 100  
Sandrine Testud, 21, 100, the semifinal

Through the semi  
a rom, the 21-year-old  
hard karate spent  
appraisal of the 20  
minute sweet 100  
number three France

"It wasn't easy," M  
Martinez, the 1994 F  
champion, said. "I w  
ay and I had to m  
match. I fight for us."

Bron

TOKYO (AP) — F  
Francisco quarterf  
Young, there was no  
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Dempie Sunds.

The defending Sun  
champions, 21, 100  
beat out of 100, 100

If we're going to  
season, we'll get ou  
the push, and we'll  
punched now. After h

The Rio daily O Globo  
reported Saturday the 1994

FIFA player of the year  
struck 22-year-old rookie

Flamengo teammate Savio  
during the club's 3-2 loss to  
Japan's Kashima Reysol in an  
exhibition match on the Rio  
team's Asian tour.

Savio's father, Mazinho,  
said his son called him from  
Japan twice to complain abo  
out being pushed around by  
Romario and Edmundo, who  
had created "a horrible atmosph  
surrounding the team.

Mazinho, however, would  
not confirm other reports th

that Savio was so upset with  
Romario that he wanted to  
be transferred.

O Globo also published a  
news release by Flamengo  
directors in which Romario  
and Savio deny any incident  
took place.

But according to O Globo,  
Romario kicked and pushed  
Savio when Flamengo was losi

3-0. Savio was substi

tuted at halftime.

Retired Brazilian national  
team and Flamengo star Zico  
told O Globo that "Savio's

play has been way off the

mark and it's a direct result of

his relationship with Romar

io."

Zico expressed concern

that the World Cup hero

could endanger Savio's

career.

"But Flamengo's team

charisma is enough to calm

down any dispute between

players," Zico added.

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# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1995, 11

p win

leared it with his hands. Despite playing the defense was held in place by newly acquired Kohler. The international made his new team, the defensive unit, the Juventus team, Juvento Cesar.

No winner of the regular Bundesliga in the event was inaugurate 1987. Dortmund won 15,000, became a Supercup winner.

Two clubs, Sevilla and Celta of Vigo in northwest Spain, were demoted to the third division by the Spanish Football League (LFP) last Tuesday when they failed to provide bank guarantees to support a percentage of their 1995-96 budget.

The LFP said Albacete and Real Valladolid, relegated last season with bottom club Logrono, would be restored to the 20-team first division.

A crowd of 25,000 angry fans marched through the Andalusian capital demanding the decision be reversed.

The Archbishop of Seville, Carlos Amigo, said he was concerned by the LFP decision and its impact on the city and the club's supporters.

In Vigo 10,000 Celta fans demonstrated outside the ground, waving club banners and scarves while club directors rushed to Madrid to appeal against the decision.

On Friday the Spanish Cabinet discussed

## Fans go on hunger strike over relegation.

**ROCIANA DEL CONDADO**, Spain (R) — Spanish soccer fans have gone on hunger strike in protest at the decision to relegate their team Sevilla from the first to the third division because of administrative errors.

About 100 fans in Rociana Del Condado, south of Seville, said they would not eat until the club, which finished fifth in the first division last season and qualified for the UEFA Cup, was reinstated to the top flight.

"The hunger strike will last until we drop, or until there is a solution for Sevilla," said supporters' spokesman Miguel Morejon. "We Sevillians have Sevilla in our heart. We love Sevilla to death."

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## Martinez downs Pierce to reach final

**CARLSBAD**, California (R) — Second seed Conchita Martinez and ninth-seeded American Lisa Raymond both defeated French foes Saturday to set up a meeting in the final of the \$34,000 Toshiba Tennis Classic.

Martinez of Spain picked apart Mary Pierce 6-1 6-3, while Raymond dismissed Sandrine Testud 6-4 6-3 in the semifinals.

Though the score indicated a romp, the 23-year-old Spaniard hardly agreed in her appraisal of the one-hour 17-minute sweep against world number three Pierce.

"It wasn't easy at all," said Martinez, the 1994 Wimbledon champion. "I had to fight my way until I could win the match. I fight for every ball,

make her play another shot, and maybe she makes some errors she's very impatient."

Martinez heavy topspin forehands and sliced backhands frustrated the hard-hitting Pierce into 29 unforced errors.

"She's very impatient all the time," said Martinez.

"You have to be very patient and aggressive at the same time. You need to pick the right ball, spot and time, and go for it."

Martinez claimed the first set after surviving two break points in each of her first two service games before getting on track.

Pierce offered a stiffer challenge in the second set by rushing the net more. But she blew her chance to force a

third set by double-faulting French as Raymond employed her aggressive serve and ground game to get past Testud.

"There's nothing to say," said Testud, ranked 62nd.

"She served very good and I didn't until the last few games. She played better."

the seventh game away, giving the Spaniard a 4-3 edge.

"I made too many mistakes," said Pierce, who has dropped two of three career meetings against the Spaniard.

"It's disappointing when you know you can beat somebody, when you feel your better than them and you should win, but you end up missing and lose the match."

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## Qatar, S. Arabia discuss improving Arab ties

DUBAI (R) — The new emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, started a one-day visit to Saudi Arabia on Sunday and discussed with King Fahd how to improve relations between Arab nations, the official Qatar news agency said.

It said the emir, on his first foreign visit since he ousted his father, Sheikh Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Thani in a palace coup in June, was received at Jeddah airport by the king.

The agency added that they "reviewed efforts to remove the Arab chasm and close Arab ranks on objective and realistic basis and the agreement on an Arab code of honour governing relations between Arab countries, big and small."

The agency said they also discussed means of "restoring (Arab) solidarity ... and removing causes of di-

vision."

The 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent 1991 Gulf war left the Arab World divided between those who supported Kuwait and those who were seen to have sympathised with Baghdad.

Both Qatar and Saudi Arabia joined a U.S.-led alliance which drove Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

But Qatar, under the guidance of the New Emir as crown prince, has befriended radical Iran, restored ties in 1992 with Iraq and gone further than other Gulf states in normalising ties with Israel — all largely at odds with Saudi Arabia.

The agency said the two leaders reviewed regional developments and means of consolidating the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), grouping them along with Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and the

United Arab Emirates.

It said the two sides studied means of consolidating bilateral relations between their two countries in all fields.

"They affirmed their desire and keenness to increase the two sister countries," it added without elaboration.

Diplomatic sources had said the talks were expected to include a border dispute.

A 1992 border agreement between Qatar and Saudi Arabia has run into difficulties. Diplomats said there were hopes to settle this dispute which led to clashes three years ago.

Saudi Arabia has moved this year to settle its border with the United Arab Emirates, signed a border deal with Oman and a framework for delineating its border with Yemen and is said to be prepared a settlement with Kuwait.



REFUGEES CRISIS: Croat Serb refugees sit on the top of a truck waiting to cross the Bosnian-Yugoslavian border (AFP photo)

## House postpones debate of 'unconstitutional' article in draft law

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The government Sunday called on the Lower House of Parliament to postpone discussions of an article in the draft law on telecommunications that allows administrative problems to be solved in a tribal manner. The call came after some deputies said the provision is unconstitutional.

While the draft law provides for measures to tackle all violations mentioned in the crime and punishment section of the legislation, it stipulates, in article 66, that

the general director of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has the authority to arbitrate in violations that are not specified in the section.

Chairman of the Judiciary Committee Abdul Karim Dughmi criticised the provision, saying that the court is the final arbiter in any breach of the law.

He said that the general director of the TCC could not be given the authority to pass judgements and rulings.

"This is against the constitution," Mr. Dughmi said. "How can we give the director judicial author-

ity?"

Minister of Justice, Hisham Al Tal said the issue is of paramount importance and should be further discussed. He called on the House speaker to give the government more time to discuss the article and its implications.

The House is expected to discuss the article in its Wednesday session. Until now, the House endorsed 65 out of the 91 articles of the draft law.

Except for article 66 and article 29, lawmakers passed most of the articles quickly and without introducing amendments.

## PNA shuts 2 newspapers affiliated with Islamists

GAZA CITY (AP) — The Palestine National Authority (PNA) on Sunday closed down two weeklies affiliated with Islamic fundamentalist groups opposed to peace talks with Israel.

Palestinian Attorney-General Khaled Al Kidre said Al Watan, backed by the Hamas group, and Al Istiklal, backed by the smaller Islamic Jihad, would not be allowed to publish until further notice for violating a press law that went into effect last month.

"The papers violated the rules set by the Palestinian Authority," Al Kidre told the Associated Press. He would not give details.

The new law, while promising freedom of expression in the media, also bars publication of "secret information" on PLO troops as well as stories seen as inciting violence or sectarianism. The penalty for violating it is suspension of a publication for up to three months, fines and jail terms of up to six months.

PLO sources said the paper

ers' closure was actually caused by their repeated harsh criticism of PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Al Watan editor Ghazi Hamad said he learned of the measure when found his offices sealed with red tape Sunday morning.

"There were no explanations," Mr. Hamad said.

On Saturday the papers' owners, Al Watan's Imaad Falouji and Al Istiklal's Alaa Saftawi, were briefly detained and questioned by Palestinian police in Gaza City.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad oppose the PLO's accords with Israel, and have tried to derail the peace process through bombings and kidnaps that have killed scores of Israelis in recent years.

Mr. Arafat had already shut the two fundamentalist weeklies once before since returning to Gaza last year. He also forced a 40-day closure of the Jerusalem-based An Nahar after it published a critical article.

## Taliban pledges to topple Rabbani

MOHAMMAD AGHA, Afghanistan (AFP) — The Taliban religious movement fighters said Sunday that they still intend to use military force to remove Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani from power.

"We do not recognise Rabbani (administration) as a government. They're only a gang, a group of tyrants," said Taliban military spokesman Abdul Razooq.

Mr. Razooq, who is based in this provincial district centre about 40 kilometres south of Kabul, said the Taliban had a religious right to remove Mr. Rabbani.

The Taliban force, led by religious students, appeared on the Afghan scene last November. They rapidly took over several provinces and advanced on Kabul but were driven by Mr. Rabbani's troops earlier this year.

Mr. Arafat had already shut the two fundamentalist weeklies once before since returning to Gaza last year. He also forced a 40-day closure of the Jerusalem-based An Nahar after it published a critical article.

## 2 Islamists executed in Cairo Police detain suspects in Mubarak attack

CAIRO (Agencies) — Two Muslim militants were executed Sunday on convictions for killing a policeman and two Coptic Christians and joining the outlawed group blamed for the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat.

Earlier Sunday, security forces arrested five suspected Muslim militants who, police said, were trained in Sudan with the would-be assassins of President Hosni Mubarak and sent to Egypt to murder government officials.

The militants sneaked across the border from Sudan and were acting under order from Mustafa Hamza, identified as a leader of the team that tried to kill Mr. Mubarak in Ethiopia on June 26, police sources said.

The men executed Sunday, Hossam Hassan Ismail and Ahmed Mahmoud Abdel Rehim, were convicted by a military court in May of the three murders last year. They were hanged in a Cairo prison.

Both had been charged with trying to overthrow the government. Mr. Abdel Rehim was also convicted of stealing large amounts of ammunition from an army depot and illegally possessing weapons.

They were among 42 de-

fendants charged with joining the banned group Jihad. At the time of their arrests, officials referred to the defendants as members of a group called the vanguard of conquest, but they later said it as a revival of the Jihad.

The court gave 28 of the defendants sentences ranging from life imprisonment to one to five years. Twelve others were acquitted.

Sunday's hanging bring to 50 the number of convicted militants executed in the three years since Muslim radicals began a campaign to topple the government and replace it with strict Islamic rule. More than 780 people have died in violence, mostly police and militants.

The five men arrested Sunday were seized in Cairo, nearby Giza and in Dakhla, north of the capital, according to police sources who spoke on condition of anonymity. They did not say when the five entered Egypt or name their intended targets.

The government newspaper Al Ahram said the men, who were arrested in possession of documents and computer discs outlining the organisation's strategies, would stay in detention while the discs were sent away for inspection by specialists. Sudan has denied the

## Malaysia awaits U.N. approval for more troops to Bosnia

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — The government here has made a fresh appeal for United Nations permission to send more Malaysian troops to Bosnia as U.N. peacekeepers and upgrade the firepower of its soldiers, reports said Sunday. "We are now waiting for the U.N.'s approval to send the 450 men to Bosnia," Defence Minister Syed Hamid Albar was quoted as saying. Malaysia currently has some 1,500 Malaysian battalion troops serving under the U.N. banner in Bosnia-Herzegovina. A previous request to increase their numbers and firepower was rejected by the U.N. Mr. Syed Hamid said more weapons were also needed for Malaysian troops. "That is what we are planning, to make sure that our men have the ability to keep and enforce peace," he said. Malaysia has threatened to defy the arms embargo on Bosnia — which Muslim nations have declared invalid — but said it will only act in union with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

## Saddam summons military command

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has summoned his armed forces command for a meeting, the state-run Iraqi news agency reported. President Saddam, also commander-in-chief, discussed "armed forces matters" with high-ranking officers and military advisers on Saturday, the news agency said in an urgent dispatch monitored in Cyprus. No further details were provided. The meeting took place during a visit by chief U.N. weapons inspector Rolf Ekeus, who arrived Friday to determine whether Baghdad is releasing enough information about a biological weapons programme it acknowledged only two months ago.

## Second Serb town falls

(Continued from page 1)

warplanes to bomb government-held sections of the Bihać region in Bosnia.

Defending Bihać, which the Croats considered essential to their national interests, helped cement an agreement two weeks ago between the Croatian and Bosnian gov-

ernments to strengthen their military alliance. But it also gave the Croat army leave to pour thousands of troops into southwestern Bosnia within striking distance of Knin.

Saturday, for the first time, units of the Muslim-led Bosnian army crossed into Croatia and linked with Croatian army troops and at least one tank. "United Nations military officials have seen clear evidence of the looting by Croat soldiers of Serb houses in the town," U.N. spokesman Alan Roberts said. The fate of patients at Knin's hospital, which was shelled on Tuesday, also was not clear, Mr. Gunness said.

## COLUMN 10

### Tenor returns with hurt foot — breaks leg

MACERATA, Italy (R) — An Italian tenor, shot in the foot during an execution scene in last week's opening night of the opera *Tosca*, hobble back to the stage Friday — and broke a leg. Organisers at the summer festival in eastern Italy said tenor Fabio Armiliato lost his balance while leaning on a crutch off stage after the first act. He broke his right leg in two places and went back to hospital in an ambulance. Armiliato, whose injury will force him to rest for two months and will mean the cancellation of some commitments in the United States, had been using the crutch backstage for support after injuring his left foot last week. The tenor had not been using the crutch on stage, preferring to sing unsupported with a soft cast on his leg. Festival staff said last week it appeared the tenor had been hit by flying debris from a blank fired from a rifle used in the execution scene near the end of the third act. The tenor, loudly applauded by the audience on his comeback, had earlier said he was returning so as not to disappoint the fans at Macerata, whose open air festival is one of the highlights of summer opera in Italy. "I want to give my utmost," he told reporters during the interval. "This audience deserves it."

If the United Nations has doubts about any weapons programme "they can be cleared up by the monitoring system set up by UNSCOM," it added. "It is not possible to keep silent any longer on the injuries committed against the Iraqi people and what the Iraqis have tolerated has exceeded all limits," the paper said. The United Nations wants Iraq to honour all Gulf war ceasefire resolutions — not just those covering disarmament — before the embargo on oil exports is lifted.

Iraq had to account for missing Kuwaitis, end the "export of terrorism," stop "represing" its own people in the north and south of the country and abide by all Security Council resolutions to get sanctions lifted. Madeleine Albright, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said last week. "UNSCOM has in fact completed its mission and the verification (of the germ warfare report) can be accomplished quickly if it wants to complete its mission successfully and distance itself from problems and crises."

"Any new delay would be unacceptable, unjustified and would not be in UNSCOM's interest because it would threaten to cause its mission to fail," the newspaper said without elaborating. "Iraq has met its basic obligations on prohibited weapons," it said. "Regarding the verifica-

tion of documents concerning the biological weapons programme, it is secondary and doesn't influence UNSCOM's essential task," it said. If the United Nations has doubts about any weapons programme "they can be cleared up by the monitoring system set up by UNSCOM," it added. "It is not possible to keep silent any longer on the injuries committed against the Iraqi people and what the Iraqis have tolerated has exceeded all limits," the paper said. The United Nations wants Iraq to honour all Gulf war ceasefire resolutions — not just those covering disarmament — before the embargo on oil exports is lifted.

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Nicosia (AP) carrying ammunition by Egyptian o...  
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Minist... told AF...  
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ZAGREB — Defen...  
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Croatian milita...  
take Serb-held  
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"As far as milita...  
tions are concerned over," he told a press conference.

"Five to six thousa...  
are currently surroun...  
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The figures are...  
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for Syria, where he...  
President Hosni...  
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Rabin denies security stepped up

TEL AVIV (AP) — Pr...  
reporter Yonatan Rabin...  
their security has b...  
of an assassination bid. The d...  
Maariv said Sunday t...  
security had been increa...  
after intelligence agencies...  
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Rabin, Chief of Staff Gen...  
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Minister Shlomo Ben...  
said. "It's not...  
nothing of what ha...  
been in reality. Nothing ha...  
changed."

Cairo police foil press conference

MEQUIFI (AP) —...  
agents of police...  
group from border...  
conference to a recent go...  
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